TEN YEARS AFTER

Progress Report on the Implementation of the Recommendations of The Royal Commission on Labrador

1985

Department of Rural, Agricultural
and Northern Development

Government of Newfoundland
and Labrador

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PREFACE

Following a long-established Canadian practice, a Royal Commission was established in October, 1972 to conduct a full scale "enquiry....into the economic and sociological conditions of life in Labrador".

Four members made up the Royal Commission on Labrador. They were:

Mr. Donald Snowden, Chairman;
Magistrate Cyril J. Goodyear;
Mrs. Renee Snell;
Mrs. Freida Hettasch;

In addition, Mr. Max Budgell was the Executive Director of the Commission.

The Commission was given a wide frame of reference which listed some twenty-three aspects of social and economic life in Labrador to be investigated. At various times there were as many as twenty persons employed to carry out the research, clerical, typing and editorial activities. The Commission spent more than a year undertaking its task and submitted its Report in February 1974.

The Report of the Royal Commission on Labrador contains over 1,400 pages of description and history of Labrador as seen by the Commissioners. They had visited 36 communities in Labrador as well as three on the Great Northern Peninsula and two cities on the Island of Newfoundland, holding public hearings at each. They had received briefs and submissions both in writing and orally from a wide range of individuals and organizations. The report also contained 287 recommendations regarding government spending, activity and policy in Labrador's immediate and long range future. This report formed the background, and the Recommendations, provided the guidelines for the Provincial Government's policies toward Labrador, both in its own ongoing activity and negotiations for federally assisted special programs.

In 1978 the Planning and Priorities Secretariat of the Executive Council prepared a Status Report which reviewed the progress which had been accomplished in implementing the Royal Commission's recommendations. The Progress Report, which was released to the public in December, 1979 by the Minister of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development, indicated that of the 287 recommendations, the Province had taken action on 179, non-government agencies and/or the Federal Government had acted on 26, and 31 of the recommendations had not required any action. Only 41 or 18% had not been implemented because they were too costly for the financial resources available at the time.

Many of the recommendations of the Royal Commission were implemented through federal/provincial funding agreements. The Labrador Interim Agreement was entered into on December 3, 1976. Before its expiration, this Agreement funded projects valued at 22 million dollars in Labrador. At about the same time the Provincial Government was preparing a Labrador Development Proposal which was submitted to the Federal Government for funding through the Department of Regional Economic Expansion under the General Development Agreement with the Province. After a period of local consultations conducted by the Labrador Resources Advisory Council, negotiations between the Provincial and Federal Governments led to the signing of the Canada/Newfoundland Community Development Subsidiary Agreement and the Native Peoples of Labrador Agreement in July 1981. These agreements, valued at $38996,000 and$38,831,000 respectively, address many of the concerns indicated in the Royal Commission Report.

During the Fall of 1983, members of the Happy Valley/Goose Bay Provincial Government Manager's Committee undertook a second review of the progress toward the implementation of the Commission's recommendations. The group consisted of:

John McGrath,
Assistant Deputy Minister,
Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development.

George Savory,
Labrador's Regional Director of Social Services.

Ernest McLean,
Labrador's Regional Administrator of the Department of Municipal Affairs.

Frank Pye,
Community Information Officer,
Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat.

David Lough,
Principal,
Happy Valley/Goose Bay District Vocational School.

Lawrence O'Brien,

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Director of Development,
Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development.

This review endeavours to reflect the immense social and economic changes which have taken place in Labrador between 1974 and 1984, within the area and context covered by the Royal Commission Report. It must be noted that special funding amounting to approximately one hundred million dollars has been or is being expended in Labrador by the Provincial and Federal Governments, as well as the normal spending in the regular programs of both Governments.

This Status Report seeks to identify the portion of the Royal Commission on Labrador Report which can be considered to have been accomplished. It also specifies the areas of concern which still require further action. In this regard each response is identified by one of four categories. These categories are as follows:

Category 1 - Complete

THESE RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED - NO FURTHER ACTION IS NECESSARY. SOME OF THESE RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE PROVEN TO BE INAPPROPRIATE IN THE LIGHT OF TIME.

Category 2 - Incomplete

THESE RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED. HOWEVER, IT IS THE OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE THAT THE ACTION TAKEN MAY HAVE BEEN INAPPROPRIATE OR INADEQUATE - FURTHER ACTION IS RECOMMENDED.

Category 3 - Fiscal Restraints

THESE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE VALID BUT PRESENTLY NOT ACTED UPON DUE TO FISCAL RESTRAINTS.

Category 4 - Policy Restraints

THESE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE VALID BUT NOT ACTED UPON DUE TO OTHER THAN FISCAL CONSIDERATIONS.

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COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION

Recommendation 1 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province promptly take the initiative in calling together officials of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Newfoundland Telephone Company Limited, and appropriate departments of the Federal Government, to select and provide the best facilities for delivering radio and television programming to northern Labrador with the fullest possible co-ordination of broadcasting and telephone requirements in the area.

Response

There has been a large increase in communications facilities since the Royal Commission Report was prepared. During 1982 a complete study of communications was commissioned under the Coastal Labrador Community Development Subsidiary Agreement and carried out by NORDCO Limited. The Department of Consumer Affairs and Communications is presently receiving project proposals from Labrador groups and acting upon these as current funding permits. The Labrador Inuit Association has formed a communications society which is responding to the needs of the Northern Labrador Inuit Community. The Innu concerns are being similarly addressed by the Innu Radio Society.

Recommendation 2 Category 2 Incomplete

To rectify an unjustifiable situation, the Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government with a view to their hiring some bilingual staff at the post offices in Labrador City and Wabush.

Response

In a survey conducted by the Federal Government, approximately 11% of the residents by the Labrador City/Wabush have indicated that French is their primary language. The policy of the Canada Post Office is that where more than 10% of the population speak French, services will be provided by bilingual employees who are trained to the Public Service Commission's standards. The Province has been informed that this policy will be implemented to the Labrador City/Wabush area in due course.

Recommendation 3 Category 1 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government with the view to having the Canada Post Office provide some means of sorting and direct delivery of second class mail between Labrador coastal settlements.

Response

An 'all class' air mail service to Coastal Labrador Post Offices commenced in December 1974 and since that time communities situated between Cape Charles and Cartwright have enjoyed a tri-weekly air mail service operating from St. Anthony. Similarly, offices in Northern Labrador between Rigolet and Nain receive twice weekly 'all class' air mail service from Goose Bay. C.N. vessels convey the mail along the Labrador coast only during the fishing season when seasonal post offices are open. For many reasons, such as fluctuating opening and closing dates, difficult landing conditions, unavailability of couriers, low mail volume, etc., it was not feasible to include these offices in the air mail service operation.

Since the establishment of the all year 'all class' air mail service, the Canada Post Office reports that there have been no major complaints from customers in Labrador.

Recommendation 4 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Board of Commissioners of the Public Utilities arrange with the Newfoundland Telephone Company Limited, to adopt the objective of providing every permanent community in Labrador, with a population of 50 or more, with at least one long distance circuit available 24 hours a day, with a reliability of 95 percent and offering enough privacy for the conduct of personal business.

Response

This has been accomplished in every permanent community in Labrador, in terms of availability and reliability. However, in Norman Bay, William's Harbour and Pinsent's Arm the radio telephones are installed in homes and are therefore not necessarily private.

Recommendation 5 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that in the current, critical absence of any form of emergency communications in many summer fishing settlements and several permanent settlements on the southern Labrador coast, the Province, through its Department of Transportation and Communications, take the initiative in calling together representatives of the Telephone Company, the Federal Ministry of Transport and the Federal Department of Communications, to organize an inter-community network, primarily, but not exclusively, in the communities which lack telephone service.

Response

The Newfoundland Telephone Company has undertaken to provide, on request, mobile telephone units to the occupants of the summer fishing stations in Southern and Eastern Labrador.

Recommendation 6_________Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province express to the Federal Government its strong support for the Northern Broadcasting Plan.

Response

This recommendation has been rendered redundant by the very great changes and improvements in both Radio and Television Broadcasting since 1974.

Recommendation 7_________Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through its various departments, instruct its officials visiting coastal Labrador to publicize the dates and purposes of their trips, and seek the co-operation of the appropriate broadcast media in notifying coastal residents of such visits in advance.

Response

When this recommendation was made, there were very few government officials permanently located in Labrador, communications to and within Labrador were at best difficult, and very few community organizations existed in the coastal area. At the present time, officials have little or no difficulty contacting community representatives prior to visits, and the local representatives can use the usual community means of communicating information, which includes a high percentage of household telephones to advise residents of the official plans.

Recommendation 8_________Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Department of Transportation and Communications, urge the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to arrange regular broadcasts of provincial news to the small communities along the Quebec North Shore and Labrador Railway.

Response

This concern has been addressed by the installation of a radio transmitter by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation which makes the regular CBC programming from Labrador City available to the whole region.

Recommendation 9 ________ Category 2 _________ Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government to ensure that CBC undertakes regular programming in the Indian and Eskimo languages from CGFB, Happy Valley, and involve native organizations in the planning of this service.

Response

The response to #1 covers this item as well.

Recommendation 10 _______ Category 1 _________ Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, as a matter of priority, find staff for the Division of Communications with the expertise to follow communications development in the Province, and elsewhere, and to advise the Minister of their bearing on the orderly development of communications services in Newfoundland.

Response

The recommendation was implemented by the Department of Transportation and Communications in April, 1975 when a Director of Communications was appointed. In January, 1977 a Communications Analyst was hired. The Communications Division in 1985 has a Director of Communications, a Senior Policy Analyst, and a Communications Analyst on staff.

Recommendation 11 _______ Category 1 _________ Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province request the Federal Government to extend a continuing mobile information program to communities in Labrador, backed by an Information Canada Enquiry Centre in St. John's.

Response

This service is now available on a toll free basis through the

Canada Service Bureau, Zenith Number 07027.

Recommendation 12 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province give priority to expanding the Newfoundland Information service to include a Zenith number enquiry system in Labrador, based on a regional enquiry centre in Happy Valley, linked by teletype to a central information office in St. John's.

Response

Many government departments have opened offices in Labrador and the enquiry system recommended above is now considered unnecessary.

EDUCATION

Recommendation 13 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that supervisory personnel with School Boards whose jurisdiction is in part or wholly in Labrador, be required to visit district schools at least three times a year.

Response

Most Boards operating schools in Labrador comply with this recommendation especially those whose jurisdiction is wholly in Labrador. Boards which operate only a few schools there, however, are able to have their supervisory personnel visit only once or twice a year. Nevertheless, all Boards agreed with this recommendation and every effort is being made to meet the needs of Coastal Labrador.

Recommendation 14 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that teachers be invited to participate in planning housing accommodations for themselves and that such accommodation be placed through the community.

Response

This recommendation was written at a time when there was an extremely high rotation of teachers in Coastal Labrador, and a poor housing situation for teachers. The situation has improved greatly during the decade with teacher housing units being provided in many communities. It is felt however that any Board-provided housing must be planned so as to accommodate the needs of any teachers who may be utilizing it over a number of years.

Also, there are increasing numbers of teachers in Coastal Labrador who are permanently settled and occupying their own homes.

Recommendation 15 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the regulations concerning borrowing time of equipment and materials from the Audio Visual Division of the Department of Education be thoroughly reviewed to bring them in line with the needs of the Labrador Coastal areas.

Response

The Department of Education provides audio-visual equipment to schools for a one-week period. In the case of Labrador schools this equipment is provided for one week in addition to the time involved in shipping it to and from the school. Certain heavy items such as projectors are made available to schools on a full year basis. The Department feels this arrangement meets the needs of Labrador schools.

Recommendation 16________Category 2__________Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Department of Education, through a regional office in Labrador, call and fund a conference in Labrador to begin a thorough examination of the present curriculum with a view to developing courses with local relevance.

Response

The Department of Education does not have regional offices in the Province with direct relationship to the elementary and secondary school system. This responsibility is carried out by the six District School Boards which have all or part of their Districts in Labrador. These Boards have a large measure of control in the area of curriculum development and some of them are making efforts to respond to the concerns addressed by the recommendation.

Recommendation 17________Category 2__________Incomplete

The Commission recommends that an interim program of industrial arts be implemented as soon as feasible.

Response

There have been considerable improvements in the development of school curriculum generally since 1974. Pre-vocational courses are being offered in the Happy Valley/Goose Bay area at the District Vocational School. Some pre-vocational courses are offered through the new high school program where facilities and availability of teachers permit.

Recommendation 18________Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Department of Education, make immediate provision for employment of bilingual teacher aides in schools with native populations in Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, Davis Inlet and North West River and that the school boards be given adequate additional funds for salaries.

Response

A program of teacher aides for native schools was first introduced in 1973-74. Since then it has been extended to include the schools listed in this recommendation. The cost of this program is borne jointly by the Federal and Provincial Governments.

Recommendation 19 ________ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends the establishment of kindergarten in all schools with native population in Labrador.

Response

The policies regarding kindergarten apply universally across the Province. School Boards must provide services to six year old children and may provide services to five year olds. Most of the schools in Coastal Labrador have regular kindergarten classes.

Recommendation 20 ________ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends that teacher training at Memorial University of Newfoundland offer Indian and Eskimo cross-cultural courses to teachers who are considering teaching native children in Labrador Schools. Salary recognition should be given for this specialty in language and culture.

Response

The Department of Education, the Labrador School Boards, and the University are working together on the development of curricula and the training of teachers for native children. The University has appointed a Professor whose time will be devoted exclusively to this program.

Recommendation 21 ________ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends that courses in Eskimo and Naskaupi be offered in the appropriate schools in Northern Labrador as a language elective for credit.

Response

Courses in the Inuit and Innu languages have been introduced in the primary and in some case elementary grades in Northern Labrador schools. These courses are taught by Inuit and Innu teacher aides. The Labrador East Integrated School Board is actively pursuing the development of a high school credit course in the Inuit language, and made its program available to the Pentecostal School Board for Postville. The Roman Catholic School Board is studying the question of providing a high school program in the Innu language.

Recommendation 22 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that community training requirement inventories serve as a basis for planning adult education programs in Labrador, not only by the vocational school in Happy Valley/Goose Bay, but by other involved adult education agencies.

Response

A study of training needs of Coastal and Western Labrador has been conducted under the Community Development Agreement for Coastal Labrador. This report is giving direction to the various agencies providing adult education for residents of Labrador.

Recommendation 23 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, in conjunction with Canada Manpower, update this information annually.

Response

A Training Needs Assessment Committee has been established with representation from the District Vocational School at Happy Valley; the Adult Education Division, Labrador Section; the Labrador Institute of Northern Studies, and the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission at Happy Valley. This Committee supervised the training needs assessment described in the response to recommendation #22 and carries out a continuing role in appraising the adult training needs in Labrador.

Recommendation 24 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends the establishment of an Advisory Council for the Happy Valley/Goose Bay Vocational School.

Response

This recommendation has been partially implemented in that an Advisory Council has been established to assist in making the decisions regarding particular trades and courses. There is still a requirement for an ongoing Advisory Council as recommended.

Recommendation 25 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that present entrance requirements for vocational schools be waived in favour of individual selection and counselling for mature applicants with years of experience in a particular field being equated with formal academic qualifications.

Response

This recommendation has been acted upon by the implementation of a concurrent training program which accepts students on an individual selection basis.

Recommendation 26 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Department of Education, construct a hostel at Happy Valley/Goose Bay for Adult Education students.

Response

A student dormitory has been constructed at the District Vocational School under the Labrador Interim Agreement, housing 102 students, 51 male and 51 female. Two of these rooms are equipped for disabled persons.

Recommendation 27 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that where vocational schools are established in Labrador, every effort be made to integrate the programs and staff of the schools with industrial arts programs of the secondary schools.

Response

Pre-vocational courses are offered to high school students through the District Vocational School in Happy Valley/Goose Bay.

Recommendation 28 Category 3 Fiscal Restraints

The Commission recommends that the College of Fisheries, Navigation, Marine Engineering and Electronics, Memorial University of Newfoundland and the Vocational Education Division of the Department of Education meet together to examine inadequacies of existing programs and to set up comprehensive co-ordinated programs for adult education in Labrador. The Committee of this group should also give high priority to considering the establishment of a community college service throughout Labrador.

Response

The concerns have been reviewed in the Labrador Training Needs Study described in the response to recommendation #23. They will continue to be studied and be the targets of specific recommendations from the Training Needs Assessment Committee.

Recommendation 29 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Adult Education meeting and committee, recommended earlier, extend its examination of adult education in Labrador to include the role of the School Boards and School Committees in all-level education in Labrador.

Response

The Training Needs Assessment Committee addressed this concern in its review of the total situation in Labrador and recommendations for co-ordinated action by the various agencies providing education in the region.

Recommendation 30 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that at the first point of contact with the prospective Labrador teachers, school boards arrange much better orientation than has been available in the past by collaborating in developing an orientation kit containing the kind of materials outlined.

Response

While none of the School Boards have a sophisticated multi-media information kit such as has been recommended by the Commission, an attempt has been made by all Boards, especially those situated in Labrador, to acquaint teachers with the conditions that exist in Labrador and to provide basic orientation information to prospective teachers.

In an effort to prepare teachers for the unique circumstances which exist in Labrador, Memorial University has developed three credit courses on Native and Northern Education. These were offered in the 1978 summer session, and have continued since that time. In addition, two new programs have been developed - a 20 course certificate program which will be offered in Happy Valley and is designed to upgrade native teacher aides, and an eleven course diploma program on native and northern education.

Several native teachers have graduated from this program.

Recommendation 31 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that School Boards with part or all of their jurisdiction area in coastal Labrador co-operate in their planning and implementation of regional week-long orientation seminars during the first week of the school year for all new teachers going to coastal Labrador.

Response

Since 1973-74 the rate of annual turnover of teachers on the coast has decreased greatly. With increasing numbers of 'old-timers' on most school staffs, new teacher orientation when necessary, could well take place within the school environment, rather than at regional seminars.

Recommendation 32 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that all School Boards with jurisdiction in Labrador co-operate in developing an annual one-week series of in-service institutes, work shops and seminars in Goose Bay for all teachers in the coastal and Lake Melville areas.

Response

All the School Boards operating in Labrador have regular programs of in-service training and teacher provisions.

Recommendation 33 Category 1 Complete

Until such time as educational inequalities between Labrador and the rest of the Province is eradicated, the Commission recommends that:

1. Memorial University examine its teacher training program with a view to introducing into the curriculum subject matter and courses which are geared towards the complexities of teaching in multi-grade isolated schools, and that skills in this area be given the status of a specialization.
2. The Curriculum for student teachers contain special emphasis on Labrador, both in factual information about a little known area of the Province and in teaching of skills useful in the racially mixed Labrador North and Central.

The Commission recommends further that:

3. The Faculty of Education institute a co-operative teaching program to provide for extended periods of practice teaching in coastal Labrador for credit for students in their final year of training.

4. Graduate students in educational fields be given strong encouragement in following thesis subjects of particular relevance to Labrador.

Response

1. Basic teacher education programs are general comprehensive programs in that they are not designed to prepare specialists in any area and they include subjects across the boerd spectrum of disciplines relating to education. In 1977, Memorial University's Faculty of Education introduced a diploma program in Native and Northern Education for students who planned to teach in Labrador. To date, the demand for that program has not been sufficient for it to be approved.

2. The programs in teacher education do not give special emphasis to any particular area of the Province, but they address conditions which occur in various types of classrooms and communities. The diploma program referred to above includes several courses which address teaching in the North with particular reference to native peoples.

3. The Faculty offers an internship in which students work in schools for a full semester near the end of their teacher education programs. The internship is offered in any area of the Province to which logistics and resources permit access.

4. Graduate students select thesis subjects which flow from their interests. Their interests flow from their experimental background and the emphasis which they elect to give their academic studies. A very small number select subjects of relevance to Labrador exclusively. Most graduate students select subjects which are useful to inform their teaching or administration in any area of the Province.

Recommendation 34 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Roman Catholic Denominational Education Committee abandon its present formula for capital allottments in favour of a formula based on need.

Response

As of 1980 funding for school boards changed dramatically. Rising interest rates and substantial debts incurred by school boards caused the provincial government to assume these debts and distribute grants to various denominational councils who in turn distributed the funds to the various school boards. Boards received this funding based on a system of needs and priorities. Also, regulations were put into place, which attempted to recognize the higher cost of operating schools in Labrador by allowing special grants for facilities in areas beyond a certain latitude.

Recommendation 35 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends the following:

1. That the Department of Education through a proposed regional office in Happy Valley/Goose Bay make a detailed examination of the additional costs of providing educational services in Labrador with a view to developing a special augmentation formula to equalize Labrador's opportunities with those of other parts of the Province.

2. That in the interim, special grants of at least 20 percent more per student be given to the Roman Catholic Consolidated, the Labrador East Integrated, the Vinland Integrated, the Pentecostal, and the Strait of Belle Isle School Boards for operational and maintenance costs. For boards with jurisdiction outside Labrador, the increase is to apply only to those students within Labrador.

3. That the Province immediately take steps to meet with School Boards with jurisdiction in Labrador to work out more adequate specialist allottments, including teacher aides for Labrador, and that special funding arrangements be reached for their salary, travel and accommodations.

4. That the Province allocate to school boards, with jurisdiction in Labrador funds to hire sufficient supervisory personnel to make three visits annually to all schools within board districts.

5. That a special annual grant of $25,000, the amount to be revised as the program develops, be allocated jointly to the boards serving coastal Labrador for the establishment of

orientation and in-service educational programs for Labrador teachers.

6. That funds be allocated, under the Federal/Provincial Agreement for native peoples, to allow school boards and school committee representatives from coastal Labrador to travel for consultation with their counterparts in other northern and similar areas of Canada.

Response

Items 1 and 2. In 1982 the Department of Education introduced a program of granting $50.00 per pupil per year, higher than the provincial grant rates to all Boards administering schools in coastal Labrador, with the exception of the schools in the designated communities. Prior to this, since 1979 all Labrador schools received a 5% higher maintenance grant than the schools on the Island. There is a program in place for the Province under which any school board can be subsidized for 75% of its energy (heat and light) costs which are over the provincial average. This program is especially beneficial for the coastal Labrador schools. In these ways the special costs of operating schools in Labrador have been addressed.

Item 3. Special funds are available for teacher aides and special programs in the designated communities.

Item 4. Because of changes and improvements in School Board supervisory procedures this concern is being addressed in all coastal Labrador schools.

Item 5. This concern is addressed by the response to Recommendation #31.

Item 6. Funds allocated for Education through the Native Peoples of Labrador Agreement provide adequate means for consultation with appropriate bodies for the development of a native/ northern school program.

Recommendation 36 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province exempt School Boards from payment of Social Security Assessment Tax.

Response

It has been a policy of this Administration to remove exemptions which relieve special groups of the obligation to pay the Retail Sales Tax. Consequently at the present time, all School Boards in Newfoundland are responsible for payment of Retail Sales Tax on the purchase of any goods or services to which this tax applies. To exempt the School Boards of Labrador from such a requirement would create the necessity to extend this exemption to all other School Boards and thereby open the door once again to the practice of extending exemptions to special groups. However, School Boards are exempt from Retail Sales Tax on fuel and electricity.

Recommendation 37 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that wherever feasible, additional grades be added to those offered at present in home communities.

Response

The new high school program is currently available in all the major permanent communities in Coastal Labrador.

Recommendation 38 Category 4 Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that a public meeting be called in North West River by the Department of Education to discuss the feasibility of integrating North West River Schools, beginning at Grade IX.

Response

Socially and culturally, communities of Sheshatshit and North West River are far apart; one is predominantly Innu, the other Settler and Inuit. The school systems are operated by different School Boards. In view of this, the Department of Education has felt that it would not be feasible to attempt to bring the two schools together. However, in light of the construction of the bridge between the communities, and the new high school program, there would be merit in raising the question for discussion at the local level.

Recommendation 39 Category 4 Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that the Department of Education undertake a study to ascertain the most efficient method of accomplishing the integration of the entire high school population of Labrador City/Wabush through provision of a regional high school.

Response

For the past several years the Denominational Education Committees and the School Boards, in consultation with the Department of Education, have been considering the future organization of schools in the Labrador City/Wabush area. Popular opinion has not encouraged the type of integration recommended by the Commission.

Recommendation 40 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Labrador East Integrated School Board be involved in planning for the resettlement north of Nain related to:

i) Arranging schooling for children whose families will be among the first residents of the new community.

ii) Long-term educational needs of the community when established.

Response

There are no plans for a permanent community north of Nain.

Recommendation 41 Category 4 Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that the Schools Act, 1969 be amended and the Collective Agreement changed to allow for a shortened school year for those communities in Labrador whose population in part or total moves between two settlements in pursuit of the fishery.

Response

This matter should be discussed at the Educational Conference, with a special effort made to inform parents who occupy summer fishing stations. A proposal may have been made to school boards concerned but it has not been communicated to the affected persons.

Recommendation 42 Category 4 Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that the Schools Act, 1969 and the Collective Agreement be amended or changed to allow teachers working in an area with a shortened but intensive school year to be paid as if the school year had the required 190 days.

Response

Refer to the response to #41.

Recommendation 43 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the system of bussing for students up to Grade VI to the Straits schools be abandoned in favour of maintaining integrated educational facilities in individual communities for students of all denominations from kindergarten to Grade VI.

Response

The improvement to highway 510 has eliminated most of the problems experienced in the Labrador Straits area at the time of the Royal Commission. There have also been improvements in the various elementary schools including the construction of a school building at L'Anse Au Claire and the utilization of the former Mountain Field building at Forteau as an elementary facility, because of the construction of a Central High School there.

Recommendation 44 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends the establishment of an Elementary School for all students below Grade VII in Pinware.

Response

Refer to response to #43.

Recommendation 45 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that junior high school students continue to attend classes in either West St. Modeste or Forteau but that they actually reside in one of these communities during the school week for the bad weather season between December 1 and April 30, and that they be given bursaries to cover boarding expenses.

Response

Refer to response to #43.

Recommendation 46 ______ Category 1 _________ Complete

If for any reason a substantial portion of students are snowbound in their individual communities, the Commission recommends that the school be closed until students who travel by bus can also attend.

Response

Refer to response to #43.

Recommendation 47 ______ Category 1 _________ Complete

The Commission recommends that School Boards be given the authority to make this additional school time mandatory for both students and teachers be paid for any overtime incurred in this way.

Response

Refer to response to #43.

Recommendation 48 ______ Category 1 _________ Complete

The Commission recommends that on completion of this research, the School Board present the Committee findings to the public so that they have sufficient information on which to consider the matter. Once this has been done, the Commission recommends that a community referendum be held to reach a consensus on semesterization.

Response

A study of semesterization was conducted by a committee which presented a report to the local school boards. A four year semester system was not recommended because of lack of parental support. Since almost every family wanted summer holidays, implementing a four semester system would not have solved anything.

Recommendation 49 ______ Category 4 _________ Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that the programs which assist student travel and exchange for educational purposes be extended to include travel and exchange within Labrador.

Response

Student travel and exchange should be viewed in respect to means and distance of travel. A program of assistance for rural students to visit urban areas should be established for the entire province. The present policy of funding exchanges between Labrador and Insular Newfoundland could be broadened to be a program of remote to urban centers, with Goose Bay and Labrador City considered urban for this purpose. The success of the 1983 Labrador Winter Games is an example of the value and merit of this kind of policy.

Recommendation 50 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that students from the coast, between Nain and Mary's Harbour, travelling to post-secondary institutions outside Labrador, but within the province, be given a reimbursement of their air fare to and from Goose Bay, on presentation of proof of attendance at an educational institution.

Response

Students in the seven Designated communities under the Native Peoples of Labrador Agreement currently receive this type of travel assistance. Several resolutions have been passed by Labrador groups in recent years requesting that financial aid be given to all students from Labrador communities on the basis of, and at the rate of, the provincial contributions presently being made to the students from the communities under the Native Peoples of Labrador Agreement.

Recommendation 51 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends the immediate establishment of a regional office for education in Happy Valley/Goose Bay, with adequate budget, staff and authority to work towards bringing Labrador's education at least to minimum standards accepted elsewhere.

Response

There is some doubt whether the establishment of a regional education office in Labrador would justify the expenditure involved. At the present time, there are three school boards administering educational services in the Goose Bay area and on the coast. They have reasonably adequate and competent staffs to operate elementary and secondary education. Furthermore, the Department of Education is located in Goose Bay.

HEALTH

Recommendation 52 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission strongly recommends that the Province provide medically-authorized air transportation services free within the Province to all residents of Labrador.

Response

This question has been a matter of vital concern through the past ten years since the recommendation was made. Through funding under the Coastal Labrador Community Development Agreement, a study of the air ambulance services in Labrador and northern Newfoundland was carried out early in 1985. This report, "Air Services Requirements in Support of Health Care in Newfoundland and Labrador" will give direction to the Government for addressing the concern in the future.

Recommendation 53 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends the immediate provision of full nursing station facilities, with adequate staff and equipment at Davis Inlet, Postville, Rigolet, Port Hope Simpson and Red Bay.

Response

Much action has been taken on this recommendation in the past decade. The facility at Davis Inlet has been improved and expanded to full nursing status. New medical clinics have been constructed at Postville, Rigolet and Makkovik under the Labrador Interim Agreement. New medical clinics have been constructed at Black Tickle and St. Lewis under the Coastal Labrador Community Development Agreement. The nursing station at Mary's Harbour has been completely renovated and funds are available for a similar renovation at Cartwright in the Coastal Labrador Community Development Agreement.

The Department of Health and the Grenfell Health Services Board agree that a full medical centre is not necessary for Red Bay. Medical services are provided by visiting personnel from Forteau and St. Anthony. Continuing improvement to the Labrador Straits Highway is making surface transport between Red Bay and the Medical Clinic of Forteau more convenient.

Recommendation 54 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends the establishment of fully equipped clinics at Charlottetown and Fox Harbour, and the upgrading of the facility at Charlottetown to a nursing station if and when it becomes a permanent community.

Response

Charlottetown is a permanent community which constructed a medical clinic by means of free labour, donated material and a Canada Works project. It was equipped largely through donations received both locally and from outside the area. After its completion, it has been staffed and maintained by Grenfell Health Services.

The facility at St. Lewis (Fox Harbour) is included in the response to #53.

Recommendation 55 ________ Category 4 __________ Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that the Paddon Memorial Hospital become the medical and administrative centre for the entire central and north coastal area of Labrador, with sole responsibility for acute treatment services. As an acute treatment centre for the northern region, as well as for the immediate environs, Happy Valley/Goose Bay should be the base for air ambulance service, travelling doctors and dentists, and for nursing supervisors.

Response

The Paddon Memorial Hospital has been renovated to become the Elizabeth Goudie Provincial Building and medical services have been transferred to the former American Melville Hospital. More recently the hospital at North West River has been closed and its services transferred to the Melville Hospital. Melville Hospital is a wooden structure, which while having more facilities than were available in the Paddon Building, has a limited existence without major renovations and reconstruction.

The Grenfell Health Services Board continues to make the Curtis Hospital at St. Anthony the medical and administrative centre for the Central and Coastal areas of Labrador.

Recommendation 56 ________ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends that communities served by IGA nursing stations be provided with radio-telephone sets on IGA frequency with priority assigned to communities in which the only resident medical staff are lay dispensers.

Response

The improvements in communication in Coastal Labrador have eliminated the situations which prompted this recommendation.

Recommendation 57 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that provision be made for coastal representation on an enlarged community health council.

Response

In 1981, the administration of health services centered on the Curtis Memorial Hospital in St. Anthony was reorganized. The Grenfell Health Services Board was created and representatives from the Coastal communities of Labrador and Northern Newfoundland were appointed to the Board.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Recommendation 58 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Regional Administrator and his staff prepare a clear, uniform outline of procedures to be followed with social assistance, and that this information be given circulation in the communities where there is no resident welfare officer.

Response

Government's social services programs are designed to meet individual and personal needs, and these needs vary from one individual to another. It is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to disseminate information in a general way that will be meaningful and useful to individual users of the service. Furthermore, the interpretation and application of services is performed most effectively by a professional social worker in response to a given case situation. For these reasons the most the Department of Social Services has been able to do is to ensure that professional Social Workers are available to people in their own homes and communities. This service has been supplemented by the periodic production of a booklet which indicates in a general way those services available from the Department.

Recommendation 59 Category 4 Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that the Province provide a higher rate of social assistance to recipients in Labrador, in recognition of the higher expenditures on food and clothing only, and that this increase should be 10%, which is approximately the average additional expenditure between St. John's and Labrador.

Response

The Department of Social Services does not agree that Labrador recipients should receive different treatment although legislation does recognize the needs of the individual applicants.

Recommendation 60 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the allowance paid to recipients in Labrador be determined on the basis of actual costs of utilities, maintenance and fuel, and adjusted on the basis of the recipient's actual circumstances. There should further be regulations to provide recipients with a special grant over and above the flat monthly rate, to meet costs of replacing essential items such as heating and cooking units, and basic furniture.

Response

The Department of Social Services does not agree with special rate structures for particular groups of people or for different areas of the Province. The Department is committed to a philosophy of meeting individual needs within the scope of the legislation governing the administration of social services in the Province.

Recommendation 61 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that welfare officers be given greater authority to approve rental payments to welfare recipients, particularly in the Labrador City/Wabush and Happy Valley/Goose Bay areas, and further, that the Regional Administrator be granted special authority to make decisions on such matters, without having to refer to the Director. A review should be undertaken immediately by the Labrador Regional Welfare Office to determine current rental costs before setting the maximum rents which welfare officers can approve on their authority.

Response

The recommendation has been implemented in full and at the present time the Regional Director and his staff in Labrador have complete authority in maximizing the provision of the law with respect to shelter requirements of individuals.

Recommendation 62 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends, under the Federal/Provincial Agreement for northern Labrador, that arrangements be made for the appointment of family counselling and child welfare specialists to each of the northern Labrador communities and North West River, with particular attention to the personal and professional qualities required.

Response

The Department of Social Services has a variety of Social Work Specialists employed in Labrador including a Family Services Specialist working at Nain and a Child Welfare Specialist working exclusively in the community of North West River. The Department has developed a team approach to child care and protection and family services in Northern Labrador by expanding departmental staff at Nain where a Family Councillor and a

Child Welfare Specialist are employed. Those services are co-ordinated by the Regional Director at Happy Valley. The Department also employs a Co-ordinator Officer who is responsible for special projects and concentrates on employment opportunities for Social Assistance recipients.

Recommendation 63 ________Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that immediate steps be taken by the Province to obtain suitable office space for both regional administrative and supervisory services, and local client services as the first step in upgrading the Department's welfare function in Labrador.

Response

The Regional and District Sections of the Department of Social Services are located in the Elizabeth Goudie Provincial Building, Happy Valley.

Recommendation 64 ________Category 2__________Incomplete

The Commission recommends, relating specifically to welfare services, that the regional administrator should be given primary responsibility for preparation of annual estimates, for staff selection, for in-service training of employees selected to work in Labrador, and much greater authority to make program decisions in terms of special financial assistance, foster and adoptive home placements, rehabilitation, and staff development.

Response

The Department of Social Services has decentralized decision making authority in respect of individual clients and all its regional offices, including the one in Labrador, have considerable autonomy and scope in the provision of social services. However, the Department is not prepared to decentralize the process of staff recruitment and development as to do so might undermine the overall goals and standards which the Department has set for these functions.

Recommendation 65 ________Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends, as an interim measure until communications generally are upgraded to the north coast, that the regional welfare office in Happy Valley be equipped with radio--

telephone equipment on the same frequency as Labrador Services Division.

Response

This recommendation is redundant in the light of existing communications facilities.

Recommendation 66 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Labrador Regional Welfare Officer be given a substantial budgetary allocation to allow for administrative and supervisory travel by scheduled and charter aircraft, to guarantee more effective supervision of existing field services.

Response

The Department of Social Services staff in Labrador now travel by chartered aircraft and on scheduled flights. The Department is satisfied that service delivery is no longer impeded by the means of transportation.

Recommendation 67 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that coastal Welfare Officers be given adequate budgets, including the capacity to charter aircraft for the purpose of making regular and frequent community visits.

Response

Please refer to response to #66.

HOUSING AND UTILITIES

Recommendation 68 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Labrador Services Division, encourage the development of a lumber industry in Postville to provide housing construction and maintenance in northern Labrador.

Response

A sawmill was constructed at Postville in 1977 and turned over to the community. Although the sawmill has the potential of producing approximately 250,000 f.b.m. of housing and boat materials annually, little effort has been forthcoming regarding utilization.

Recommendation 69 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province conduct a community opinion survey on the advisability of relocating Hopedale in accordance with the principles proposed by this Commission for resettlement.

Response

No further action required as Hopedale is now a permanent community.

Recommendation 70 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Labrador Services Division involve Indian people in the planning and assignment of new Indian Housing at North West River.

Response

Action has been taken on this recommendation and for the past two years the Innu Band Council at Sheshatshit has assumed responsibility for the houses built in that community.

Recommendation 71 Category 1 Complete

The Commission therefore recommends that appropriate officials of the Labrador Services Division and representatives of each northern community under its jurisdiction visit communities in Arctic Quebec and the North West Territories to view and compare housing design and construction, rental-purchase arrangements and community and utility planning, with a view to implementing the necessary changes in provincial programs, and that they be accompanied by a civil engineer, appointed to work in continuing association with the Division.

Response

In 1982 a workshop was held in Goose Bay which focussed on housing in Labrador. Following this, the Torngat Regional Housing Association was formed. This Association is responsible for the delivery of Federal and Provincial housing programs to Labradorians. They have also consulted an architect who has designed a house suitable to the Labrador environment. Some of the staff of Torngat Housing are familiar with housing design in other northern areas but there are still plans for representatives to complete such a trip, although a definite date has not been set.

Recommendation 72 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that Labrador Services Division consult local residents in each community to obtain their views on housing design, that worthwhile design features suggested in this consultation be incorporated in final plans, and that such consultation be held every few years as the budget and plans of the housing program change.

Response

While local consultation has not taken place, there has been a concerted effort by the Torngat Regional Housing Association to provide housing suitable to Labrador. An architect has been consulted and a house has been designed with the Labrador environment in mind. The Association is presently in the process of building model homes in each community.

Recommendation 73 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that Labrador Services Division examine the rental-purchase arrangements of other native housing programs in the north and devise a system which more equitably matches the ability of residents to pay.

Response

The Torngat Regional Housing Association focusses on building houses suited to the needs of the residents of Labrador. Presently, there are no rental-purchase arrangements available and existing arrangements by the Province often exceed affordability by many residents. There has been some consideration of various schemes and housing studies but as of yet such arrangements remain a future consideration.

Recommendation 74 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that once new rental-purchase terms be drafted, Labrador Services Division draw up a simple contract for every tenant, in his native language, clearly outlining the arrangements and obligations of both parties.

Response

Refer to response to #73.

Recommendation 75 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that existing homes built by Government on the North Coast be upgraded by providing proper foundations, insulation and repair of structural defects.

Response

Since 1979, the Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development has no longer been responsible for housing in Labrador. Housing was turned over to town councils and then in 1982 with the formation of the Torngat Regional Housing Association housing development became their responsibility. Upgrading of the pre-fabricated structures which were put into place by the Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development has not been completely done, however there has been some progress over the years.

Recommendation 76 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province request the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to hold community meetings in all northern communities to acquaint residents with the details of the Winter Warmth Program and advise the procedures for exploiting this Program.

Response

This recommendation was carried out by Torngat Housing in 1983. Representatives from several Government departments and agencies conducted a series of workshops at the community level which advised residents on the purpose and use of the Winter Warmth Program.

Recommendation 77 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that in future home construction by Labrador Services Division, all homes be built with sufficient insulation to permit the use of indoor plumbing when water and sewer services become available, that in addition to better insulation, all floors and walls be properly sealed, and that full inspection of homes be completed before tenants move in.

Response

The new house design developed under the Torngat Regional Housing Association incorporates these features.

Recommendation 78 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that Labrador Services Division plan its housing program at least a year and a half in advance, so that materials can be shipped and stockpiled over the winter months for construction to begin as early as possible at the start of the following construction season.

Response

Administrative difficulties with funding for the Native Agreement and the structure of the fiscal year prevent the purchase of materials for stockpiling. In terms of renovations, however, some materials have been stockpiled so that work can begin as soon as possible in the spring season.

Recommendation 79 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Labrador Services Division housing program include the optional provision of stoves and basic furniture at prices based on assessment of individual ability to pay.

Response

No further action required The new model homes provided by Torngat Housing include optional provision of basic furniture such as beds and kitchen furniture. In addition, each home is equipped with a refrigerator and stove. These services are free of charge.

Recommendation 80 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that high priority be given to Red Bay in the provision of bulk storage tanks for fuel.

Response

The responsibility for providing oil storage tanks rests with the oil companies or their agents.

Recommendation 81________Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government to fund and organize a total survey of housing demands and the adequacy of existing housing units in Labrador.

Response

During the decade since the Commission recommendations there have been concerted efforts made to improve the housing situation in Labrador. The Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation, through its Happy Valley/Goose Bay office administer the following programs in the appropriate areas of Labrador:

a) rural residential rehabilitation assistance program.
b) rural and remote housing program
c) provincial home ownership assistance program
d) provincial rural mortgage lending program
e) residential land banking and development (Wabush/Labrador West
f) industrial land development
g) economic rental housing
h) subsidized rental housing
i) rent supplement program

Housing is being repaired and constructed in Northern Labrador both by the regular programs of N.L.H.C. and under special funding made available through the Native Peoples Agreement.

There are surpluses of housing units available in Labrador West and Happy Valley/Goose Bay because of the economic downturn and out migration from these areas.

Recommendation 82________Category 2__________Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province help to meet the immediate and urgent housing needs of coastal Labrador and the Lake Melville communities by instructing the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation to begin a series of housing seminars in each permanent and winter community, to access local housing needs, publicize available programs and identify necessary amendments to existing programs.

Response

In an effort to meet the housing needs for Labrador, the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation has established a regional office at Goose Bay. This office is responsible for providing information on the Corporation's initiatives and identifying housing needs and program changes where necessary. The Corporation also has a full time representative employed in coastal Labrador in respect to the delivery of the Rural Rehabilitation Assistance Program.

Recommendation 83 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province confront serious problems of sanitation, water supply and public health in coastal Labrador, with the following measures:

1. The designation of at least one safe source of drinking water in each community, and facilitates to make this source available year round;

2. Home delivery of water in winter, on a fee-for-service basis where appropriate;

3. Assessment of existing garbage disposal sites for suitability, and designation of new sites where necessary;

4. Establishment of year-round waste and garbage collection services in large communities;

5. Provision of garbage incinerators in larger communities;

6. Provision of laundry, toilet and shower facilities in a central building in larger communities.

Response

There have been extensive efforts undertaken and presently in progress to eliminate the problems referred to in this recommendation. The provision of safe supply of water and adequate solid waste disposal was addressed in a number of coastal communities under the Labrador Interim Agreement. Water and sewer systems are being installed in the major coastal communities under the Native People's of Labrador Agreement and the Community Development Subsidiary Agreement for Coastal Labrador. In the meantime, there have been great improvements in the housing situation, especially in Eastern Labrador and Southern Labrador, which renders item number 6 redundant in that area. A bath house constructed at Davis Inlet is operated by funds from the Native Peoples Agreement. Water and waste disposal services are still required in some of the smaller coastal communities.

Recommendation 84 ________ Category 2 __________ Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Department of Social Services set up a delivery system for fuel and water for the old, sick and disabled in coastal Labrador communities, operating through the Labrador Services Division on the north coast and its own officers on the south coast.

Response

The Department of Social Services does not have a formal delivery system for fuel and water as recommended above. The Social Workers in the various communities, however, respond in individual situations and ensure that people who need help receive it.

Recommendation 85 ________ Category 2 __________ Incomplete

The Commission recommends that electrical rates be equalized throughout the Province, regardless of the source of power in various areas.

Response

Numerous recommendations have been made by Labrador groups supporting this concept. The Power Distribution District of Newfoundland and Labrador reported more than a year ago that diesel produced electricity costs more than 30 cents per kw on the Labrador coast. This means that a subsidy is applied to every kilowatt consumed. Electrical rates which encourage higher consumption, as opposed to the existing "diesel rates" which discourage consumption, would cause the public subsidy of coastal electricity to increase drastically.

Proposals for alternate energy sources have been put forward, for example small hydro and biomass fuel, but to date they have been rejected due to the high capital costs. However, this situation may be changing due to the more competitive construction climate, the greatly reduced interest rate situation, and new "low head" technology.

Several interesting experiments are being conducted across Canada in the use of various biomass fuels to produce electricity. A wood gasification plant in Ontario will produce electricity using a gas fired diesel engine at the rate of 17 cents per kw. The most interesting feature of this technology is that a coastal Labrador application would permit the modification of the existing generating equipment rather than its replacement.

LEGAL SERVICES

Recommendation 86 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Department of Justice, recruit and subsidize a lawyer to be based at Happy Valley/Goose Bay.

Response

The Legal Aid Commission operates an office at Happy Valley/ Goose Bay to serve as a mediation agency under the Federal/ Provincial Native Court Workers Program. This agency provides three native court workers for the area from Happy Valley to Nain.

Recommendation 87 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Department of Justice, negotiate with the Federal Government with a view to having Labrador designated a Royal Canadian Mounted Police Sub-Division, with headquarters at Happy Valley/ Goose Bay.

Response

Labrador is now being served by its own RCMP Labrador Sub-Division, with the headquarters being located in Goose Bay, with an officer of the Inspector Rank being the Commanding Officer.

Recommendation 88 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government for the employment of bilingual special constables at Happy Valley/Goose Bay and North West River to serve the needs of the public in police matters.

Response

In 1979, an Innu Special Constable was hired and fully trained. In 1983, he resigned for personal reasons. Numerous other individuals have been approached, however, for many reasons, none have progressed sufficiently and none have been hired to date.

Recommendation 89 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the

Federal Government for the establishment of a Royal Canadian Mounted Police Detachment at North West River.

Response

In 1983, the RCMP notified the North West River Town Council that a detachment would not be located in their community.

It was also stated that adequate police service was and would continue to be provided by the Happy Valley/Goose Bay Detachment.

Recommendation 90 ________ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province renegotiate the Agreement with the Federal Government providing for the employment of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in order that the Federal Government bear its proportionate share of the cost of police services in Labrador.

Response

On July 1, 1984, the Newfoundland Constabulary established operations in Labrador. They are responsible for the patrol of a 21,000 sq. mile area which includes Labrador City and Wabush. They also have an office in Churchill Falls.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police are responsible for the Goose Bay area in addition to patrolling the coast of Labrador.

Recommendation 91 ________ Category 4 __________ Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that the Province publish information on fish and game regulations and other Provincial Government information in English and French for distribution in Labrador West.

Response

The Provincial Government has not adopted a bilingual policy with respect to publications.

Recommendation 92 ________ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province through the Department of Tourism through its Wildlife Division, recruit adequate personnel for wildlife surveillance and enforcement and for border patrol in Labrador.

Response

The Department of Culture, Recreation and Youth through its Wildlife Division has increased its enforcement staff in Labrador and a Regional Supervisor has been placed in the area to more efficiently carry out surveillance activities. In addition, the Department is recruiting a native Wildlife Protection Officer to be located on coastal Labrador.

Recommendation 93 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through its Department of Tourism, appoint a qualified person immediately to direct and train wildlife enforcement officers.

Response

The Department of Culture, Recreation and Youth through its Wildlife Division conducts training programs for its enforcement personnel. Personnel from the Labrador region are being included in this ongoing training program.

Recommendation 94 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government with a view to bringing about immediate improvements of the Fisheries Protection Services and a firm and effective enforcement policy.

Response

At present the Department of Fisheries and Oceans has two Divisions established in Labrador, Resource Management Division and Inspection Division. The person-year allocation has been increased as follows since 1978.

Resource Management	Inspection
1978- 13 person years	1978- 2 person years
1983- 16 person years	1983- 4.5 person years

The new positions have been established in coastal Labrador communities. This has been done in order to take the program closer to the fishing industry. However, in terms of the formal Fisheries Protection policy there is no specific focus on Labrador. Generally, the policy is directed towards the entire province and thus Labrador is not treated separately.

Recommendation 95 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Department of Justice, arrange with the Supreme and District Courts for fixed scheduled circuits to Labrador.

Response

The Department of Justice does not agree with the establishment of fixed circuits for the Supreme Court and District Court. There is a legal requirement that the Supreme Court visit Labrador at least once each year. The current trend in Canada is away from fixed circuits to give the Courts more flexibility to respond to actual needs.

Recommendation 96 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that two Court Rooms with adjacent offices and waiting room space be provided in the proposed public building for Happy Valley/Goose Bay adequate to accommodate Magistrates and staff.

Response

Courtroom facilities have been established in Happy Valley. There is one court-room and a waiting room and adequate office space for magistrates and staff.

A district court with appropriate facilities and a district court judge appointment remain future possibilities.

Recommendation 97 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province through the Department of Justice hire additional staff for the Magistrate's Court at Happy Valley/Goose Bay to provide high quality portable recording equipment to both courts in Labrador.

Response

This recommendation has been implemented by the Department of Justice.

Recommendation 98 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government with a view to amending the Criminal Code with respect to interpreters' fees and providing for a cost sharing arrangement for Court Interpreters.

Response

The Province arranges for interpreter services as and when required. The funding of these services is solely a provincial responsibility.

Recommendation 99 Category 4 Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Department of Justice, transfer the area from Red Bay to L'Anse au Claire to the St. Anthony Magisterial District.

Response

To date it has not been feasible to implement this recommendation.

Recommendation 100 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province through the Departments of Justice and Education incorporate legal information including the rights of the individual in the high school curriculum.

Response

The new senior high school program contains a two credit course in Canadian Law.

Recommendation 101 Category 4 Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that the Province through the Department of Social Services provide a centre for temporary detention at Happy Valley/Goose Bay and increase probation staff for juveniles there until the recommendations of the Committee on Corrections are implemented.

Response

At present, the Department of Social Services operates four group homes in Labrador. Two of these group homes are in the Innu community of Sheshatshit and Davis Inlet. The other two group homes are in the Happy Valley/Goose Bay area and serves the rest of Labrador including the Inuit communities of the Coast. The function of these group homes is to alleviate the need as far as is possible for sending children out of Labrador. As of April 1, 1984, children who are sentenced under the new

Young Offenders Act to open custody facility can be accommodated in one of the four group homes.

To provide services under the Young Offenders Act, the Department of Social Services has designated a social worker in each of its District Offices to serve as a Youth Court Worker.

The implementation of the Young Offenders Act is being monitored to determine its effect with regard to the need for a more detention-oriented type of group home in the Labrador Region. At present young persons who are sentenced to a closed custody facility are sent to either the Pleasantville or Whitbourne facilities.

Recommendation 102 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government with a view to establishing a community-based detention centre at Happy Valley/Goose Bay for native and northern offenders.

Response

A Correctional Centre for Labrador began operating on October 24, 1984. It is a minimum security facility with the capacity to house 38 inmates from the Labrador area.

Recommendation 103 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government to provide for a cost-sharing arrangement for courts and correctional services having particular reference to Labrador.

Response

The administration of Justice is exclusively a provincial responsibility. The Federal Government presently shares a 50/50 basis with the Provinces the total cost of Juvenile Correctional Services. The Federal Government is also sharing in the provision of legal services to the Innu and Inuit populations. These services include legal aid, legal education and a court worker program.

Recommendation 104 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government with a view to bringing open season and other regulations under the Migratory Birds Convention Act more in line with the climatic conditions and needs of the people of Labrador.

Response

Regulations pertaining to the open season for migratory birds are governed by an International Treaty. Under the terms of the Treaty, opening and closing dates are set according to climatic conditions.

Recommendation 105 Category 4 Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Wildlife Division of the Department of Tourism, consider and repeal the prohibition against carrying firearms on Sunday.

Response

The prohibition against carrying firearms on Sunday has not been lifted.

SPORT AND RECREATION

Recommendation 106 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that a full-time sports and recreational organizer be stationed by the Department of Rehabilitation and Recreation in Happy Valley/Goose Bay to provide service to the coast of Labrador.

Response

The Department of Culture, Recreation and Youth has stationed a full-time Youth Specialist at Happy Valley/Goose Bay.

Recommendation 107 Category 2 Incomplete

For smaller communities without facilities, the Commission recommends the construction of multi-purpose community centers, large enough and well enough equipped to accommodate a rounded sports and recreational program, but designed to be sufficiently flexible to allow activities other than sports. In all communities, particularly those with gymnasiums, facilities should be shared by the school and general community.

Response

Every community in Coastal Labrador has some form of community center. Most of these, constructed under the various Canada Works Programs, were designed to be halls, and while usually capable of receiving a large proportion of the community's public, were not designed for sports activities. However, there is a false concept that extensive facilities are necessary for the conduct of a recreation program. This was demonstrated during the 1983 Labrador Winter Games. An example is also apparent in the Cross-Country Ski Program in Red Bay. In 1973-74 the Department of Education made a limited amount of funds available to purchase equipment, because the school did not have, and did not hope to have, a gymnasium. Cross-country skiing became part of the regular school program in all grades and young people from Red Bay are presently competing at provincial meets.

Recommendation 108 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that any community receiving a recreation facility intended for use by the community as a whole be required to make a contribution to it in labour or funds at a level the community can afford.

Response

With respect to the support of community capital projects, it is the policy of Government that the community contribute 25% of the costs of the project. Yet, in most cases, this requirement is not adhered to if it is beyond the financial means of the community.

Recommendation 109 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province prepare plans for community centers in coastal Labrador, so designed as to be flexible enough to meet the diverse needs of specific communities.

Response

Every coastal Labrador community has a community hall center. Norman Bay obtained a building late in 1984 which was used throughout the winter.

Recommendation 110 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that a covered natural ice rink be constructed in a central community along the southern coast of Labrador, between L'anse Au Clair and Red Bay, as the beginning of an expanded program of similar structure in other coastal areas in the future.

Response

The C.L.C.D.A. Agreement is presently funding a Recreation Director for this area for a one-year pilot project, sponsored by the Department of Culture, Recreation and Youth. It is likely that plans for such a facility will be formulated in the near future and can be dealt with through the normal co-operation between the community and the Department. The local Recreation Association has obtained a building and is seeking funds for its renovation and operation.

Recommendation 111 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends the formation of a regional Recreation Development Authority, consisting of representation from the Department of Rehabilitation and Recreation, the Local Initiatives Program and communities between L'Anse au Clair and Red Bay, to examine the methods of co-operative finance of such a structure.

Response

The Labrador Straits Communities have organized a Regional Recreation Authority and have obtained a surplus building from the Gull Island Power Company holdings to be used as an artificial ice arena for the area.

Recommendation 112 ______ Category 1 __________ Complete

To bring an adequate level of cultural facilities to this area of the Province, the Commission recommends the Province fund the building of an Arts and Culture Centre in Labrador City and Wabush. The building should be a multi-purpose facility for the purpose of recreation, aside from sports activity and should house other public services such as a theatre, library, art gallery and a historical museum, concerned with Labrador West traditions and history.

Response

There has been a Provincial Government commitment to construct an Arts and Culture Centre at Labrador City with tendering to take place in the summer of 1984 and tentative completion in 1986.

Recommendation 113 ______ Category 2 __________ Incomplete

The Commission recommends that funds from the Department of Rehabilitation and Recreation be made available to cultural groups through the office of the Director of Cultural Affairs to offset part of travel expenses for purposes of drama exchange within and without Labrador.

Response

Drama Groups in Labrador have done exceptionally well in recent years and should be encouraged to the fullest extent possible under current restraints.

Recommendation 114 ______ Category 3 __________ Fiscal Restraints

The Commission recommends the establishment of an Arts and Culture Centre in Happy Valley to preserve the cultural uniqueness of Labrador and its people.

Response

While this may be a worthy objective, its priority should be seen in light of the abundant facilities which are presently available in the Happy Valley/Goose Bay area and the work being accomplished by the Labrador Heritage Society.

Recommendation 115 Category 4 Policy Restraints

As a preliminary step to Labrador becoming involved in the Arctic Winter Games, the Commission recommends that the Province assist and finance inter-community development of sports' skills and competition, especially individual skills, particularly in those communities which are outside the main population centers of Labrador.

Response

Given the fact that there is a limit on funds which are available for recreation in Labrador, the Department of Culture, Recreation and Youth has some reservations about participation in the Arctic Winter Games. Since it would involve travel from Labrador to the Yukon and North West Territories, it would be extremely costly. The value of such participation must be weighed against the costs involved and in all probability funds could be more wisely utilized in providing for recreational and sports within Labrador and within the Province generally.

Recommendation 116 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province assist in transportation costs in sending a contingent of Labrador athletes, selected through a network of inter-community competitions, to represent Labrador in the Games.

Response

See response to #115 above.

Recommendation 117 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Department of Education, provide assistance to the teachers of Labrador by:

1. Distribution of handbooks to all schools without physical education specialists;

2. Sponsoring and assisting financially, clinics or workshops in physical education for physical education specialists and other interested teachers.

Response

This concern would be a topic for the Pan Labrador Educational Conference recommended by the response to #116. The comments on #107 are relevant here as well.

Recommendation 118 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that a sports and recreation consultant with the Department of Rehabilitation and Recreation visit each coastal community for at least one full day once a year, and at a well-publicized public meeting give people the necessary information on what is available from the Provincial Government for sport and recreation.

Response

See response to #106.

Recommendation 119 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Department of Rehabilitation and Recreation sponsor and finance two major leadership clinics each year in Labrador - one oriented towards the larger centers and one towards the smaller communities.

Response

The situation which led to this recommendation has changed in a positive direction through the decade. Leadership clinics are held by the Department of Culture, Recreation and Youth in response to specific needs. The major coastal communities have active Recreation Committees. A major sports and recreation clinic took place during the 1983 Labrador Winter Games.

MARINE RESOURCES

Recommendation 120 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province insist that the Federal Department of the Environment exclude offshore seiners from operating inside the 12 mile limit, so that inshore herring stocks will be reserved for coastal fishermen.

Response

At present the herring fishery along the Labrador coast is restricted to Coastal Labrador residents in N.A.F.O. Division 2 GHJ. This is a fixed gear fishery only.

TEN YEARS AFTER

FISHERIES

Recommendation 121______Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province take appropriate action to ensure that a haul-out facility is provided in the Straits area after consultation with longliner owners in the area.

Response

Under the Federal/Provincial Marine Service Centre Agreement, a marine haul-out facility was constructed at L'Anse au Diable in 1976 at a cost of approximately $400,000.

Recommendation 122______Category 2__________Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province, under the terms of a Federal/Provincial Agreement and with advice from knowledgeable Labrador fishermen, undertake a general exploration of the Labrador coastal area to determine commercial resource potential of marine species as the most urgent policy. If results are favourable, the research body should recommend vessels, equipment, fishing gear and shore infrastructure be required to develop a diversified and viable Labrador fishing industry.

Response

The recommendation is specific for the situation pertaining in 1972-74. The most important change in the Labrador Fisheries situation is the implementation of the DREE-DFO Coastal Labrador Fisheries Development Program. It is important that much levels of co-ordination and co-operation take place at the Federal/Provincial level, regarding the Labrador fishery.

Recommendation 123______Category 2__________Incomplete

The Commission recommends that fisheries exploration should be a phased program. It should begin its first exploration season to complete exploration in Southern Labrador; plan its second season to complete exploration in Northern Labrador to Cape Mugford; and complete offshore exploration to Cape Chidley in its third season. Development of infrastructure, acquisition of vessels, gear and equipment should follow general exploration.

Response

Please refer to the response to #122.

Recommendation 124 Category 4 Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that the Province ensure that fishermen from the area be accommodated aboard the research vessel as trainees under provision of the Canada Manpower Training Program.

Response

This recommendation had been enacted. However, recent fisheries policy at the provincial level has not focussed specifically on Labrador. That is to say fishermen are not accommodated aboard provincial research vessels. While this is also true at the Federal level, programs have been introduced in Labrador which attempt to familiarize fishermen as well as others with various dilemmas that may be encountered in their respective occupations. Much of the information received from these training programs would be similar to the experience obtained on a research vessel.

Recommendation 125 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province take the initiative in establishing a planning and advisory committee, for the purposes of creating an exploratory and development program for the Labrador fishery, of facilitating liaison between different agencies and fishermen and of advising on jurisdictional responsibilities.

Response

The Labrador Resources Advisory Council was established with Government support in January 1976. Among other things, the Council took a leading role in promoting the development of the coastal Labrador fishery. The Council sponsored a number of fishery related meetings which were attended by senior representatives of both levels of government. Such meetings proved to be a very worthwhile forum and discussions which have taken place have already resulted in a number of major initiatives being undertaken in support of the region's fishing industry.

The LRAC was disbanded in 1982. Since the implementation of the Canada Coastal Labrador Fisheries Development Program by DREE and DFO, an advisory committee of Coastal Labrador fishermen has assisted in directing the program.

Recommendation 126 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the following areas be considered for construction of primary processing plants.

Southern Labrador:

- Red Bay to Cape St. Charles
- Cape St. Charles to Hawke's Bay
- Hawke's Bay to Table Bay
- Table Bay to West Bay
- West Bay to Cape Harrison

Northern Labrador:

- Cape Harrison to Turnavik Islands *
- Turnavik Islands to Cape Harrigan
- Cape Harrigan to Queen's Lake *
- Queen's Lake to Cape Mugford
- Cape Mugford to Nachvak Fiord
- Nachvak Fiord to Port Burnell, N.W.T.

*The present facilities at Nain and Makkovik may be adequate.

Response

A program of upgrading the fish handling and processing facilities along the coast is being undertaken by the Federal Government as referred to in the response to #125.

Recommendation 127 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province through its agency responsible for retail trade in Northern Labrador, stock and maintain outport retail stores at fisheries primary processing locations.

Response

This recommendation has been acted upon by the implementation of a collector system for all fishing stations in Northern Labrador.

Recommendation 128 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that where processing facilities are constructed Labrador residents be afforded opportunity to provide all available construction materials and be given preference for employment in construction and in the shore operation.

Response

Where possible, the Department of Fisheries makes provisions for the utilization of native timber in the construction of fisheries-oriented facilities along the Labrador coast.

Local labour and local materials are used when possible in the projects being undertaken by the Canada Coastal Labrador Fisheries Development Program.

Recommendation 129 Category 4 Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that the Canadian Saltfish Marketing Corporation assume responsibility for market research and marketing of all fish products produced in Labrador.

Response

Great changes have occurred in the entire fishing sector since 1974. However, the Saltfish Marketing Corporation is still primarily responsible for the marketing of salt fish. Although it has been involved in the marketing of herring, it is not responsible for the marketing of all fish products in Labrador.

Recommendation 130 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through its Department of Fisheries, provide a support ship to the southern areas, pending provision of adequate shore infrastructure.

Response

This recommendation has been made redundant because of the swiftly changing circumstances and improved facilities in Southern Labrador.

Recommendation 131 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate to have both the Resource Development Branch and the Fisheries Marine Service Protection Branch of the Federal Department of the Environment undertake research on major salmon rivers in Labrador.

Response

Continuing research is being conducted and appropriate regulations enforced for the protection of the Labrador salmon stocks.

Recommendation 132 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that licenses for fishing salmon commercially in Labrador waters be restricted to Labrador fishermen only, and that the Conservation and Protection Branch of the Fisheries Services consider issuing domestic licenses or permits to resident non-commercial fishermen.

Response

Labrador, North of Cape Charles, has been subdivided into two fishing zones for the purpose of salmon and char management. The northern zone has not changed and includes waters north of Cape Rouge; while the southern zone includes waters from Cape Rouge south to Cape Charles. Both zones have been reserved for local residents. However, a small number of non-residents who have traditionally fished in these areas still qualify for salmon fishing privileges.

Recommendation 133 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends the following:

1. that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government for a fresh water fisheries research program in the waters of the Labrador plateau, designed to bring the Province in line with other fresh water areas of the country in terms of such research;

2. that an experimental fishery project be established in the Smallwood Reservoir, as a joint Federal/Provincial program, under the guidance of the Planning and Advisory Committee recommended earlier, and if possible, be extended to the Menihek and Ashaunipi systems;

3. that the Province request the Federal Government, through the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, for assistance in the form of project development officers, to advise on developing this experimental program.

Response

A research program has been completed in the Smallwood Reservoir and it has been determined that the mercury level in white fish is less than .5 ppm. It has also been determined that the white fish resources in the Reservoir can support a limited commercial fishery in the vicinity of 500,000 pounds a year. The Innu people of North West River have been conducting an experimental fishery in this area for the past several years.

Recommendation 134 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province lease to approved Labrador fishermen, repossessed longliners which are Crown property in order that they may participate on an equal basis with other fishermen, and that Labrador crews be thoroughly trained in their use.

Response

This recommendation is made redundant by changing circumstances in the Coastal Labrador fishery. There has been a very large increase in the Labrador based longliner fleet during the decade.

Recommendation 135 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province develop a means to establish price parity of essential fishery supplies in Labrador, equalling prices for the same supplies in Northern Labrador.

Response

No action has been taken on this recommendation and in light of the current merchandising and supply situation in Coastal Labrador more is required.

Recommendation 136 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province abolish sales tax on snowmobiles, spare parts and gasoline when used for resource harvesting in Labrador.

Response

Until quite recently, most taxes related to snow machines in Labrador were forms of taxation without provision of service, since the great majority of Labrador machines are used for utility rather than recreation. Since the Eastern Shore trail groomer service has been implemented, some of the unfairness of the taxation without service is being removed.

Recommendation 137 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, in order to maintain within the fishery those fishermen who cannot for reasons beyond their control, qualify for assistance under a program for fisheries development, be provided unconditional grants for such purposes as repairs and renovations to boats and engines and purchase of fishing gear and equipment.

Response

The Fisheries Loan Board provides low interest loans to fishermen for the purchase of new or used boats, major renovations and repairs to boats and fishing equipment. Loans from $1,000 to $50,000 are available directly through the Board while loans over $50,000 must be applied for through a Chartered Bank under the Fisheries Loan Board Guaranteed Loan and Subordination of Interest Program.

Recommendation 138 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Department of Fisheries, investigate outstanding claims and direct that payment be made to applicants. Provincial Fisheries officers should be directed to investigate promptly all claims for storm damage from Labrador fishermen and to assist fishermen there to prepare and submit applications.

Response

This recommendation was acted upon under the 1974 Ice and Storm Damage Program. All claims under this Program have been settled and no new program has been put in place.

Recommendation 139 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province extend to Labrador fishermen a comparable level of financial assistance as that extended to fishermen in Newfoundland.

Response

Labrador fishermen are not discriminated against when applying for financial assistance under Provincial Fisheries Assistance Programs covering the purchase of vessels, fishing gear, and fisheries related equipment. It should be noted that, for example, increasing numbers of longliners are being acquired with government assistance by resident fishermen of Labrador.

Recommendation 140 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province through the Fisheries Loan Board examine special conditions relative to Labrador's short fishing season and recommends changes in the Act which would make it more generally applicable to Labrador fishermen.

Response

The Fisheries Loan Board provides a bounty unique to Northern Labrador fishermen applicable to their mode of fishing for Provincial Bounty for vessels 17 ft. to 25 ft. which is not available to other parts of the Province.

Recommendation 141 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Fisheries Loan Board investigate vessel-building capability in the Port Hope Simpson-Charlottown and Postville areas, with the object of including these areas for approval of ship-building under the Act.

Response

Although four longliner-type vessels were constructed at the new ship-building facility at Postville, the operation is not economical and the facility is currently used by local fishermen for constructing smaller boats.

WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Recommendation 142 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province authorize and direct its management agency to prepare and implement a long-term program to reintroduce caribou to depleted areas, to enforce regulations to provide such long time protection required, to reestablish herds, and to advise on the degree and scope of co-operation required with the Province of Quebec to establish a mutually satisfactory management agreement in respect of those herds which migrate between the two Provinces.

Response

A study of calf mortality rates and causes is being conducted by the Wildlife Division, funded by the Coastal Labrador Development Subsidiary Agreement, and in co-operation with the Province of Quebec in the George River herd.

Strict management regulations appear to be encouraging increases in the population of the Red Wine River, and Mealey Mountain herds. More attention and better inter-provincial co-operation should be given to the Lac Joseph herd, which could eventually restock the southern and eastern Labrador areas.

Recommendation 143 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province arrange for the Canada Land Inventory Program and Three Year Land Capability Study of Wildlife Ungulates, be reinstituted in order to give resource planning a sound basis.

Response

See response for #142 above.

Recommendation 144 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that as it appears industrial development of Western Labrador is responsible for some disturbance of caribou habitat, that commercial assistance to wildlife should provide financial assistance to wildlife management agencies for studies and migration work. Furthermore, this is a cost that should be borne by industrial developers in Labrador in the future.

TEN YEARS AFTER

Response

Extensive studies have been made of the George River Caribou Herd since this recommendation was made. Specific studies are addressing the local environmental impacts of projects such as the construction of the Trans Labrador Highway.

AGRICULTURE

Recommendation 145 ______ Category 2 __________ Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province through the Department of Forestry and Agriculture carry out a study of soil conditions in areas of agricultural potential and publish guidelines for the information of prospective commercial and domestic producers.

Response

Some beginnings have been made in this regard for Coastal Labrador, especially in the Straits area. Three community gardens were developed there in 1981, with two providing a good level of production. At least three others are being developed. A greenhouse has been in operation some five years in the Straits area providing large quantities of nursery stock for replanting by individuals and a summer production of lettuce and tomatoes.

The C.L.C.D.S. Agreement is presently funding a pilot project to field test the feasibility of producing cattle fodder on local land, in conjunction with the Red Bay Cattlemen's Association.

Recommendation 146 ______ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province through the Department of Forestry and Agriculture conduct detailed soil surveys in areas showing commercial agricultural potential and that suitable areas of Crown Land be legally reserved for agricultural production, enabling private operators to obtain title. First priority should be given to the North West River, Happy Valley-Goose Bay/Mud Lake area, which appears to offer the best potential for domestic agricultural development in Labrador.

Response

A reconnaissance soil survey of the Lake Melville area has been conducted by the Canadian Department of Agriculture.

Extensive town plans have been drawn up for the coastal communities under the Labrador Interim Agreement. These plans identify suitable areas for agriculture purposes.

Recommendation 147 ______ Category 2 __________ Incomplete

The Commission recommends that because good agricultural land is at such a premium in Labrador, and is so potentially important as a local source of produce, poultry and livestock, that identified agricultural Crown Land has priority use over all other uses.

Response

Refer to response to #145.

Recommendation 148 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province through its Department of Forestry and Agriculture, establish an agricultural extension office and program in Labrador, with the objective of encouraging both commercial and domestic agricultural efforts.

Response

A full time agricultural representative for Labrador is stationed at the Happy Valley/Goose Bay office of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development. The Canada/Newfoundland Community Development and Rural Development Subsidiary Agreements have funded several agricultural pilot projects and an Agricultural Information Seminar for coastal residents.

Recommendation 149 Category 4 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that in areas suitable for agriculture purposes and livestock rearing, and where interest is evident, the subject should be included in the school curriculum.

Response

In this Province, school boards enjoy a large measure of autonomy in the development of courses which have local relevance. If there is any evidence of interest in Labrador in a subject related to agriculture and a practical need is demonstrated for it, the Department of Education will support and encourage the school board in developing the program.

Recommendation 150 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the appropriate Government agency test forage tyes and varieties for livestock production in a number of areas of Labrador, especially the Happy Valley/Goose Bay area.

Response

The project at Red Bay described in the response to Recommendation 145 addresses this recommendation with actual active research.

Recommendation 151 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province through the Department of Forestry and Agriculture conduct a survey of areas in Labrador which produce very substantial quantities of bakeapples and partridge berries with the objective of increasing production by improving accessibility.

Response

Under the C.L.C.D.S. Agreement a project related to bakeapples was carried out in the Labrador Straits in the summer of 1982. This project re-surveyed test plots which had been identified in the mid 1970's to check yield levels. It also tested several all-terrain vehicles for use in accessing local supplies.

The Agreement's Advisory Committee has consistently urged that a practical action project be conducted which will help establish better means of connecting potential and existing pickers, especially along the eastern shore, with firms or individuals who have access to markets.

Included in such a project would be the testing of better means of preserving the berries at top quality while they are being stored and transported from the picking site to the market.

FORESTRY

Recommendation 152______Category 2__________Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province readjust its priorities to ensure that the forest capability sector of the Canada Land Inventory Program relating to Labrador is reinstated.

Response

An extensive bio-physical land inventory has been carried out in the Churchill River/Lake Melville area. The usefulness of this data should be ascertained for other areas.

Recommendation 153______Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Labrador Linerboard Limited encourage small sub-contractors in the Happy Valley/Goose Bay area to harvest smaller concentrations of wood in locations such as the north side of Grand Lake.

Response

This recommendation has been rendered redundant because of the closure of Labrador Linerboard's operations in the Lake Melville area.

Recommendation 154______Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that all logging operations in Labrador be assessed for integrated logging to ensure maximum utilization and lower per unit costs. This would include pulpwood, poles and lumber, and any other high value products which can be economically produced.

Response

The proposal is part of Government's forest management policy and is being implemented wherever possible.

Recommendation 155______Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province undertake a feasibility study of the forest potential of the area proposed for flooding, and other areas of the Lower Churchill River, to assess utilization of the forest resource prior to flooding, methods of extraction, and its effect on Labrador Linerboard Limited operations.

Response

The study recommended above has been completed.

Recommendation 156   Category 1   Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province through its Department of Rural Development, encourage local sawmill operators to expand their activities in the area, and assess the feasibility of a road between Cartwright and Paradise, with the objective of linking labour with the resource.

Response

There is a winter road between the communities of Cartwright and Paradise River which may be utilized by local sawmill operators.

Recommendation 157   Category 1   Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province encourage woods operators in the area through the construction of access roads and by reduction of royalties during the initial period of development.

Response

The Department of Forest Resources and Lands has carried out a vigorous resource road program in the Upper Lake Melville area in relation to the Labrador Linerboard operation. A forest access road is being constructed on the Pinware River to improve the accessibility to the timber stands there for Labrador Straits residents. Some upgrading of the former Bowater road at Port Hope Simpson is being carried out.

Recommendation 158   Category 2   Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through its Department of Rural Development, make every effort to interest a major contractor in operating at Port Hope Simpson and that every assistance, including access road construction be given by the Province to local contractors in the area to continue and expand pulpwood and sawmill operations.

Response

The East Shore Labrador Development Association has made a proposal to the Department of Forest Resources and Lands for repairs to the roads in the vicinity of Port Hope Simpson.

The possibility of a winter road linking the Straits and Eastern Labrador through extensions of forest access roads should be studied, noting that such a road would pass through very heavy timber stands.

Recommendation 159______Category 2___________Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province through the Department of Rural Development, would co-operate with private enterprise in developing commercial logging and woods products operations in the Kaipokok area of Labrador.

Response

Some action has been taken but few commercial operators have expressed interest in this type of operation.

Recommendation 160______Category 2___________Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Department of Rural Development and Labrador Services Division give priority and assistance in this venture to interested and experienced residents of Postville, Makkovik and Hopedale.

Response

The comments on #159 are relevant to this area as well.

Recommendation 161______Category 1___________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Department of Forestry and Agriculture recruit a corps of Indian fire fighters to be a permanent fire fighting force for Labrador.

Response

The Department of Forest Resources and Lands has a corp of 15-18 Innu fire fighters in Labrador who are employed during the summer months. Additional Innu people are hired as required. The Department has held several training programs for these individuals.

Recommendation 162______Category 4___________Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that the Province establish offices of the Forestry Division of the Department of Forestry and Agriculture at Port Hope Simpson and in the Straits area.

Response

Assuming an increase in activity at Port Hope Simpson an office may be required. The duties of an officer at Pinware River is presently being shared by local residents engaged in harvesting firewood and sawlogs.

Recommendation 163   Category 1   Complete

The Commission recommends that the Forest Service be directed to advise the Province on guidelines required to establish a policy relative to forest fire protection in Labrador's unoccupied forest.

Response

The Department of Forest Resources and Lands has adopted guidelines which indicate priority areas for forest fire protection in Labrador.

Recommendation 164   Category 3   Fiscal Restraints

The Commission recommends that Government primarily the Federal Government, increase research in the following fields in Labrador:

Fire and plant relationships.
Fire and animal relationships.
Fire and soil-water relationships.

Response

The Canadian Forest Service of Environment Canada has been subjected to severe financial restraints thus preventing the expansion of their research program into the above mentioned activities in Labrador.

Recommendation 165   Category 1   Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province request the Federal Department of Environment to institute closer insect detection surveillance in the Lake Melville area.

Response

The above recommendation has been implemented by the Department of Forest Resources and Lands in co-operation with the Canadian Forestry Service of Environment Canada. They have undertaken closer insect detection surveillance in Labrador, particularly in the Goose Bay area.

Recommendation 166 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province take the initiative in establishing a forest research committee for Labrador, comprised of representatives of the forest industry and both levels of Government, to develop a research program concerned with the following:

1. Means of increasing low yield areas by methods such as aerial fertilization.
2. Mechanical harvesting and other logging techniques which result in increased efficiency and enabling stands of lower yield and high stems per acre to be utilized.
3. Ways of achieving greater utilization of the tree once it is harvested.
4. Developing of forest management techniques to control watershed pollution in Labrador.

Response

Except for the Pinware River Valley which is the only forest resource area available to the entire Straits and Blanc Sablon area, there is a very low level of forest resource harvesting in Labrador. Until such harvesting efforts are intensified this concern is not a vital one.

TEN YEARS AFTER

ENVIRONMENT

Recommendation 167 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province require environmental impact assessments prior to all new industrial and government developments.

Response

The *Environmental Assessment Act* of 1980 responds to this concern. Regulations under the Act were made effective in January, 1985.

Recommendation 168 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that Government assume their rightful roles and establish and enforce necessary procedures in advance of utilization to ensure that all commercial agencies responsible for environmental change also be made financially responsible for environmental preservation.

Response

The Department of Environment has an environmental protection policy which is based on the principle that the polluter pays. All costs for control, clean-up and protective measures are the responsibility of the developer. This policy is in line with the intent of this recommendation.

Recommendation 169 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that all costs associated with installation and operation of pollution abatement devices, with restoration of areas adversely affected, with protection, research and control, be borne by the user, and that such costs to the user be above and beyond royalty payments for extractive use.

Response

See response to #167.

Recommendation 170 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province enforce environmental laws to ensure that all settlements in Labrador along the Quebec North Shore and the Labrador Railway have septic tanks for sanitary sewerage, and the garbage dumps be established where burying of garbage is possible.

Response

Some action has been taken on this recommendation and a careful review of environmental aspects of Esker Lake Camp has been completed. Recommendations have been made to Churchill Falls (Labrador) Corporation management concerning the pollution control measures required.

Recommendation 171 ______ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province through the Department of Provincial Affairs and Environment ensure that the Clean Air, Water and Soil Authority monitors the Flora Lake tailings pile to ensure it will not pollute Wahanhnish Lake.

Response

The Department of Environment maintains a regular monitoring of the situation.

Recommendation 172 ______ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province through the Department of Mines and Energy, institute a system of spot checks without prior notification to the companies.

Response

The Province, through the Mines Inspection Division of the Department of Mines and Energy periodically inspect the mining operations of the Iron Ore Company of Canada and Wabush Mines. In addition, the Department has a permanent Mines Environment Technician at Labrador City who carries out independent dust monitoring at the Iron Ore Company on a daily basis. Contrary to popular belief, the Department has not, and does not, notify any of the mining operators of an impending visit by Department Inspectors.

Recommendation 173 ______ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province because dust fall measurements from the Iron Ore Company of Canada's pelletizing plant at Labrador City have not been carried out in the townsite, and in view of the possible harmful effect dust fall could have on the public health, institute and maintain a regular monitoring program.

Response

In the summer of 1975 dust monitoring was undertaken as a joint venture by the Department of Consumer Affairs and Environment and Environment Canada. The levels obtained did not correlate well with the winds blowing from the mill complex of 10CC. It was felt that fugitive dust from unpaved roads and sandy soil contributed to the levels found. A monitoring program was begun in 1977 in Labrador City/Wabush to determine the amounts of dust and silica generated by the mills while the fugitive dust was covered with snow.

Wabush Mines initiated a regular monitoring program in late 1975 both on the mine property and in the town. The results are reported to the Department of Environment on a regular basis.

In December, 1977, provincial Environment personnel met with officials of the Iron Ore Company of Canada and the company is now complying with Government requirements related to air monitoring.

Recommendation 174 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that appropriate Government departments initiate a meeting of parties most concerned to consider writing off Wabush Lake, to develop a plan for necessary action to ensure that polluted water does not escape into other watersheds, and to assign financial and other responsibilities.

Response

The Department of the Environment recognizes the problem associated with mining activities involving Wabush Lake. The writing off of the lake is one possibility but the cost of diverting the tributaries, is prohibitive. The matter has been the subject of discussion between the Department and the management of the Iron Ore Company of Canada but no plans have been formulated. The Department maintains a continuous monitoring of this situation.

Recommendation 175 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Environment Protection Service and Clean Air, Water and Soil Authority should actively encourage the Iron Ore Company of Canada and Wabush Mines to undertake co-operative studies on the value of sewerage sludge as fertilizer for tailings piles and the establishment of vegetation on these piles.

Response

Wabush Mines are fairly active in the vegetation of tailings piles. Over the past five years they have been experimenting with various types of vegetation. Some success is evident in an area of about 25 acres of inactive tailings. During the summer of 1977, Wabush Mines contracted for the vegetation of additional acreage. This effort was not completely successful and the Company purchased its own equipment for subsequent work. Good results were achieved on a limited scale and the program is being carried out on an ongoing basis. The Iron Ore Company of Canada also has an ongoing program of experimentation of vegetating tailings piles.

Recommendation 176 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Canadian Wildlife Service increase the degree of surveillance of migratory waterfowl breeding areas in the Smallwood Reservoir with the object of insuring that the Churchill Falls (Labrador) Corporation undertake appropriate remedial action to counteract any documented ill effects resulting from flooding.

Response

In conjunction with the Province, the Canadian Wildlife Service has conducted surveillance of migratory water fowl breeding areas in Central Labrador. These programs will undoubtedly continue to ensure sound conservation of migratory waterfowl in the region.

Recommendation 177 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Federal Fisheries Service, Department of the Environment investigate the periodic occurrence of dead fish at the control structures in order to determine cause. Should investigation determine, as appears probable, fishways are required at control structures, that Department should instruct Churchill Falls (Labrador) Corporation to undertake immediate construction of adequate fishways.

Response

The problem of fish kills at Churchill Falls control structures has been all but eliminated by changing the months when the gates are opened.

Recommendation 178 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province through the Clean Air, Water and Soil Authority, conduct a survey at Happy Valley/-Goose Bay area to obtain specific information on sources, degrees and effects of pollution and thereafter to apply regulations in effect to ensure that polluters comply with the intent of the Act.

Response

A number of priority areas of pollution threat have been identified by the Fenco Consulting Engineering Study and the Department of Environment. Action has been taken to resolve the perceived threats, relocate the Happy Valley Waste Disposal Site, clean up of the Ministry of Transport Waste Disposal Site, eliminate the pollution threat by private concerns and redirection of the Goose Bay area sewer trunk systems. The Department of Environment maintains a continuing monitoring of potential pollution threats in the entire Labrador area.

Recommendation 179 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Clean Air, Water and Soil Authority and the Ministry of Transport immediately plan and implement sewerage treatment facilities for Goose Air Base and adjacent residential and industrial facilities, including a study of the feasibility of connecting the Happy Valley sewer system to the proposed treatment plant at Goose Bay.

Response

There must continue to be a constant monitoring of the outfall of the Happy Valley/Goose Bay sewer system to determine the potential environmental hazard and need for a treatment plant.

Recommendation 180 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that as regulation of river flow might influence the erosion pattern, that Happy Valley/Goose Bay Town Council and the Churchill Falls (Labrador) Corporation initiate engineering studies to determine whether such regulations could control river bank erosion.

Response

Please refer to response to #181 below.

Recommendation 181 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that as control of erosion is beyond the funding capability of the town of Happy Valley/Goose Bay, the Federal and Provincial Governments take action on the preliminary engineering report submitted in 1972, which offered a number of remedial considerations, including a staged program of protection works.

Response

Last year $500,000 was spent on Phase 1 of the river-bank project. Eighty percent of the funds came from the province while 20% came from the municipality. There has been an application for more funds and it is expected that further development will take place.

Recommendation 182 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province enforce the *Pesticides Control Act*. In particular, it is suggested that there should be:

- assessment of justification for specific control operations;
- assessment of target and non-target organism pesticide impact;
- monitoring of pesticide residues;
- research on more ecologically acceptable methods of biting fly control.

Response

Implementation of the above recommendation is the assigned responsibility of the Pesticide Control Board.

Specific control operations are applied for through the Minister of Environment. Before recommending that the Minister grant a license, the Board considers the justification for a spray program, the proposed chemicals and the intended method of control and monitoring of the program effects.

A biting fly control program using "Abate and Methodychlor" has been carried out each year by the Churchill Falls (Labrador) Corporation officials since 1974. The Pesticide Control Board has been satisfied with the detailed reports on the program which have been submitted by the Company, including water chemistry analysis, fish sampling and other biological parameters.

Scientists at Memorial University are carrying out extensive research on black fly control. However, it is expected that the development of practical biological control techniques will involve many years of research.

LAND

Recommendation 183 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province evaluate land claims and titles of the Moravian Mission, Hudson Bay Company and International Grenfell Association in relation to rights and claims of native-born people of Labrador.

Response

Land held by the Hudson Bay Company and the Grenfell Health Services Board has been surveyed and is clearly defined. The Moravian Church of Labrador has been making residential lots available at normal rates to local residents who require them.

The matter will be dealt with further in the Native Land Claims negotiations.

Recommendation 184 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province undertake that all future grants and concessions be entered into only after due consideration of claims and rights of native-born peoples of Labrador.

Response

This recommendation os being implemented by the Department of Forest Resources and LAnds to the extent possible.

Recommendation 185 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province enact new legislation to provide for a tribunal-type court, having the power to accept evidence and to award title boundaries to worthy claimants appearing before it, and that this court give highest priority to Labrador.

Response

New legislation has not been enacted in the form recommended. However, Section 134 B of the *Crown lands (Amendment) Act, 1976* provides a means whereby any individual, who can provide documented evidence that he has been in possession of Crown Land for a period in excess of 20 years, is entitled to receive a grant.

While a tribunal-type court has not been established, a Lands office has been opened in Goose Bay. The Regional Lands Supervisor has visited many of the communities to discuss land problems and will continue to do so in the future.

Recommendation 186 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province create a Land Use Authority for Labrador.

Response

A Division of Land Management has been established within the Lands Branch of the Department of Forestry. Its mandate is to prepare and maintain a land use plan for the Province. It is also involved in making policy recommendations which reflect the individual needs of the various regions.

A regional office of the Lands Branch was opened in Happy Valley/Goose Bay in 1976.

OIL EXPLORATION

Recommendation 187 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province in enacting legislation, require all companies to provide the Government with all data on oil exploration findings.

Response

This matter is addressed in the Petroleum and Natural Gas Act, 1977 and has also be addressed in the Federal/Provincial agreement on the management of offshore resources.

Recommendation 188 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province institute regulations more in line with regulations such as in existence in Alberta and Alaska to provide substantially more revenue to the Province.

Response

Please refer to response for #187.

Recommendation 189 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that at an appropriate time, the Province develop legislation which will ensure it obtains adequate royalties for the Province in conformity with the highest royalty now established elsewhere.

Response

Refer to Response to #187.

Recommendation 190 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that detailed studies of potential service centres and associated labour requirements, appropriate to the needs of a growing offshore industry in Labrador, should be initiated by the Province as the first step toward ensuring full involvement of the provincial citizens, and especially Labrador residents in employment opportunities in the oil industry.

Response

Presently, this recommendation has not been acted upon. While there have been one or two studies on labour requirements, activities in this area ceased with Labrador drilling in 1982. There have not been any studies of service centres in Labrador as offshore oil development remains highly questionable.

Recommendation 191 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province in co-operation with the Federal Government and the oil companies, establish training programs to allow people to take advantage of the job opportunities which will result from oil exploration and associated activities.

Response

At present there are no post-secondary courses offered in Labrador which are specifically designed for the offshore oil industry. There are courses of this nature offered in post-secondary institutions on the island portion of the province which are available to all residents. Some courses offered in vocational or trade schools in Labrador would lend themselves to the offshore industry but are not designed specifically for this purpose.

TOURISM

Recommendation 192 ______ Category 1 __________ Complete

For reasons related to increased and wise sustained use of the resource, the Commission recommends that the Province in conjunction with the Federal Department of the Environment and other responsible fresh water fisheries research agencies plan and begin to undertake immediately major programs of fisheries research in the fresh water areas of Labrador, which would provide an inventory of the fish resources of these waters, and of their potential.

Response

The Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans has an ongoing program in this area.

Recommendation 193 ______ Category 4 __________ Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that as comprehensive statistical data is a prerequisite for sound development of the tourist industry in Labrador, and as such data does not now exist, that the gathering and analysis of such data become the regular function of a Labrador office of the Department of Tourism.

Response

The Department of Development and Tourism recently opened an office in Wabush (see #194 below). The Director and staff of that office are beginning the process of collecting statistics/ data which concentrate on human resources as well as the status of infrastructure in Labrador.

Recommendation 194 ______ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends the establishment of an office of the Department of Tourism in Goose Bay headed by a person at a suitable senior level and with essential support staff and adequate finances.

Response

The Department of Development and Tourism established an office in Wabush in mid-1984. This office is headed by a senior department official, and there are two development officers who work in Goose Bay. The Department's major area of concern is development in Labrador with tourism being a major focus of this development.

Recommendation 195 ______ Category 2 __________ Incomplete

The Commission recommends to the Province the introduction of a variety of training programs in Labrador for hunting and fishing guides.

Response

While this recommendation is still considered relevant, such training programs have not been available in Labrador. The Wildlife Division of the Department of Culture, recreation and Youth is presently designing such and educational program.

Recommendation 196 ______ Category 2 __________ Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province develop and institute a policy of financial and other assistance for tourist homes for coastal Labrador without delay.

Response

The new Canada/Newfoundland Tourism Development Agreement was put into place February 1, 1985. Basically this Agreement involves two incentive components: (1) Attractions Incentives and (2) Accommodations Incentives. These incentives are designed for the whole province and there is not a focus on Labrador as such. However, if persons from Labrador wish to apply for grants or loans to facilitate tourist accommodations they will be given the same consideration as anyone else from the Province.

Recommendation 197 ______ Category 4 __________ Policy Restraints

The Commission recommends that the Province amend tourist establishment regulations related to construction requirements for sports fishing and hunting camps to allow for specified types of tent-type construction in Labrador in order to make future ownership of such camps accessible to residents of Labrador.

Response

Regulations regarding construction requirements for sports fishing and hunting contain certain minimum requirements for the safety and convenience of customers.

Recommendation 198 ______ Category 2 __________ Incomplete

The Commission recommends that in the interest of preservation of historical materials and sites of provincial and national importance and in the interest of expanding the tourist industry, the Province take immediate steps to:

1. Designate areas and sites of historical significance.

2. Encourage the redevelopment of historic sites in Labrador.

3. Impose adequate legal restraints on the removal of artifacts and materials of historic significance and to enforce such restraints.

4. Assist in the development of community and Labrador museums. The Provincial Libraries Board could become the funding agency for the establishment and operation of museums in conjunction with regional libraries.

5. Seek assistance of the Federal Government where it has obligations in these matters.

Response

This recommendation is still relevant to the present system of designating and developing historic sites in Labrador. The development of such sites is encouraged by the Province and seminars are given on a regular basis to various groups in Labrador in an effort to improve expertise in the area. Also grants have been given to museums in Labrador and a new Act is presently being proposed which will tighten up specific policies somewhat. All sites are protected under provincial legislation and in terms of the removal of artifacts. Exceptions are only made for archaeological expeditions.

Recommendation 199 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that in the interest of preserving the environment of Labrador, and the wise and controlled use for recreational purposes of its fish,game and other land and water resources, the Province should give immediate priority to the designation of wilderness areas, game preserves, bird sanctuaries and provincial park areas in Labrador. The Province should also urge the appropriate Federal agency to develop plans for a national park, in consultation with the people of Labrador, who are likely to be affected by the decision.

Response

While legislation regarding this matter was introduced three years ago, there is still no indication that wilderness areas or game preserves will be designated in the Province in the near future. However, should action take place, then the island portion of the province will take precedence as it is here that the greatest threat to wilderness areas is posed.

In terms of Labrador, a provincial park area was designated at Grand Lake. Four years ago a visit from federal and provincial representatives resulted in the consideration of two areas for a national park: Melimat and Torngat Mountain areas.

However, due to land claims negotiations the community councils in the area decided it would be best to delay plans for the development of the parks. Recently, it has been suggested by the Federal Government that the issue of these national parks could be considered in conjunction with land claims negotiations.

TRANSPORTATION

Recommendation 200 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, in conjunction with Eastern Provincial Airways, apply to the Canada Transport Commission for a new hearing to grant joint passenger rights between Wabush and Montreal to Eastern Provincial Airways and Quebec Air.

Response

Since this recommendation was made the Minister of Transportation and Communications formally requested Eastern Provincial Airways to apply for passenger rights between Wabush and Montreal. However, the application was not approved by the Canadian Transport Commission. Under present regulations Eastern Provincial Airways is not permitted to fly directly between Wabush and Montreal, and Quebec Air has exclusive rights to this run. However it is understood that the problems which gave rise to this recommendation have been solved. In any event the matter is outside the jurisdiction of the Provincial Government which is limited to intervening in support of Eastern Provincial Airways applications to the Canadian Transport Commission.

Recommendation 201 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province officially advise the Air Transport Committee of the Canadian Transport Commission that it looks favourably on any sound application for a scheduled winter air freight and passenger service across the Strait of Belle Isle.

Response

There is a regularly scheduled mail delivery and passenger service operated during the winter months by Labrador Airways between St. Anthony and Red Bay and Blanc Sablon. In addition two other air carriers operate charter freight services across the Straits of Belle Isle.

Recommendation 202 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province insist that the Air Transport Committee assign investigative staff to assess locally public need and public view on service and route changes proposed in application from carriers in remote areas of the Province.

Response

In 1984, the Canadian Transportation Commission conducted public hearings in Canada's remote northern communities. In Labrador, Goose Bay was one of these areas. The hearings addressed the adequacy of air service to northern communities and were a forum for discussion and change.

Recommendation 203 ______Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government to expand all terminal facilities at Wabush Airport to meet existing and growing volumes of passengers and air freight.

Response

A new terminal and related support facilities have been constructed at Wabush Airport.

Recommendation 204 ______Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the provision of airstrips on the Labrador coast be brought in line with other northern coastal areas of Canada, and that airstrips be constructed as highest priority at Nain, Cartwright, Mary's Harbour and the most suitable site for the Straits.

Response

Most airstrips on the Labrador coast have been upgraded to standard levels and money is available to complete and maintain the process. Airstrips have been constructed at Nain, Cartwright, Mary's Harbour and Red Bay; which is considered the most suitable site for the Straits.

Recommendation 205 ______Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that non-directed beacons, waiting facilities and floating docks be provided at all sea plane bases on the Labrador coast as a matter of urgency.

Response

The recommendation is now considered irrelevant due to the Labrador Airstrip Program which has minimized use of sea planes in coastal areas.

Recommendation 206 __________ Category 2 __________ Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the road from Blanc Sablon to Red Bay be upgraded to the standard of the highway on the Great Northern Peninsula and maintained at that standard.

Response

The road from the Quebec Border to Pinware has been completed. There has been some upgrading/road construction from Pinware to Red Bay but the Department of Transportation states that where traffic volume is less than that of other highways maintenance is also at a lower level.

Recommendation 207 ______ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends that the road between Happy Valley/ Goose Bay and North West River be straightened, upgraded and paved far from movement of existing and anticipated traffic in the area.

Response

The road between Happy Valley/ Goose Bay and North West River has been upgraded and paved and a bridge constructed at North West River.

Recommendation 208 ______ Category 3 _________ Fiscal Restraints

The Commission recommends that in negotiation and planning a Trans-Labrador Highway, first priority be given to the section between Happy Valley/Goose Bay and Churchill Falls, second priority to the section between Churchill Falls and Labrador City and that this highway be constructed to good-two-lane all weather highway standards.

Response

Construction of the Trans Labrador Highway is presently being undertaken. Two all-weather bridges have been constructed between Happy Valley and Gull Island and upgrading has also taken place. From Gull Island to Churchill Falls seasonal maintenance is presently the only activity.

Recommendation 209 ______ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends that the scheduling of Canadian National services to coastal Labrador communities provide for the receipt and discharge of passengers and freight at reason-able hours.

Response

This recommendation is being implemented by the C.N. Marine/Ministry of Transport.

Recommendation 210 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province exert pressure on Canadian National to establish a regional traffic office in Happy Valley/Goose Bay with sufficient staff to handle inquiries, bookings, loss or damage claims, with radio contact with vessels and teletype connections to major Canadian National Shipping Offices on the Island.

Response

This recommendation has been acted upon and a regional office has been established in Goose Bay.

Recommendation 211 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province request the Federal Ministry of Transport and the Canadian National to appoint joint wharfinger-agents at each Labrador port of call to provide a shipping and receiving service, to ensure safe handling of goods, to accept passenger reservations and to handle claims and that these staff have at least elementary training in the rights of customers and the handling of claims.

Response

This recommendation is being implemented by C.N. Marine/Ministry of Transport.

Recommendation 212 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that vessels on the Canadian National Service to Labrador be supplied with a forklift and operator to facilitate efficient unloading at communities with poor or limited wharf facilities.

Response

Most vessels on the Canadian National Service to Labrador have been supplied with forklift and operator.

Recommendation 213 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government to expedite the provision of and improvements to public wharves in Labrador coastal communities as a matter of priority.

Response

The Small Crafts and Harbours branch of the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans has in the past and continues to provide, improve and repair wharves on the Labrador coast.

Recommendation 214 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government for the upgrading of existing freight storage space to meet the needs of residents.

Response

Freight storage space has been upgraded although some deficiencies still exist.

Recommendation 215 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Ministry of Transport to develop a new port in the vicinity of North West Point with facilities for docking, loading and storage for the next 25 years, connecting with all weather road to Happy Valley/Goose Bay.

Response

This recommendation has obtained a degree of obsolescence due to the fact that a paved road has been completed to Happy Valley/Goose Bay and this practically eliminates the need for docking facilities.

Recommendation 216 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province insist on the need for the following improvements in the ferry service:

1. A new vessel with the capacity for large transport trucks, passenger autos and passengers, sufficient to meet traffic generated by improved facilities and future upgrading of the highways on both sides of the Straits.

2. An extended ferry season, adapted to actual ice conditions from year to year.

3. A terminal in Labrador, rather than in Quebec, at a site to be chosen by surveys of traffic and harbour potential.

4. Improved facilities, at both terminals, and aboard the ferry, for the comfort and convenience of passengers.

Response

In 1984 a new ferry went into operation which provides larger capacity and greater comfort than every before. The ferry ceases operations in January due to ice conditions. The terminal remains in Quebec, and terminal facilities on both sides are minimal.

Recommendation 217 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province request that the Canadian Transport Commission insist that the Quebec North Shore and Labrador Railway maintain an adequate rolling stock of refrigerated cars, heated cars and flat cars for piggy back service, to provide prompt and reliable shipment of the growing volume of freight into Labrador West.

Response

This recommendation has been rendered redundant by the changing circumstances.

Recommendation 218 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province undertake a feasibility study of a railway from Happy Valley/Goose Bay to the Straits of Belle Isle.

Response

A Labrador Resource Development and Transportation Plan has been formulated by the Provincial Government. This plan centers on the Churchill River and the location of a year-round port at Upper Lake Melville. The construction of a railway between Labrador West and Goose Bay is considered, but such a project would be dependent on increased iron ore exports.

There is no consideration of a transportation corridor between Lake Melville and the Straits of Belle Isle in this Plan.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Recommendation 219 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Department of Rural Development and the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation when assisting small businesses in Labrador, advise businessmen of all legal steps necessary to protect their interests.

Response

There are two Government agencies providing advice to businessmen in Labrador. The Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development provides advice to interested persons on a range of matters affecting business. The Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation has a representative in Goose Bay who, with the assistance of engineering, legal and accounting staff in St. John's, is able to advise Labrador businessmen on these matters.

Recommendation 220 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province urge the Bank of Montreal to closely assess the demand for banking services in the various areas of Labrador with special attention to the Straits area and to open small branches wherever feasible.

Response

The Bank of Montreal operated a sub-branch at L'Anse Au Loup which was closed in May 1984. Thereafter, a Credit Union was established by Labrador Straits residents with strong support from the Labrador Fishermen's Union Shrimp Company and Caisse Populaire of Quebec. This Credit Union, and the newly-formed credit union in Happy Valley/ Goose Bay have both expressed hopes to expand their services to other coastal communities.

Recommendation 221 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Department of Industrial Development undertake studies in conjunction with businessmen in Happy Valley/Goose Bay and the Straits area to access the need for common warehouse space and, if sufficient need exists, to design and develop cost-sharing arrangements for such facilities.

Response

Government remains willing to discuss this matter with business interests in Happy Valley/Goose Bay but feels that action is essentially in the domain of private enterprise. Government does not provide such facilities in other areas of the Province; rather they are provided by brokers, distributors or other business enterprises.

Recommendation 222 ------ Category 2 ---------- Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province examine the current system of goods distribution in the Province, consult merchants in Labrador on the handicaps they face in this matter, and, if necessary, draft legislation requiring the establishment of regional agencies and distributorships.

Response

The use of expanded winter road systems linking the Straits to Eastern Labrador could be investigated. The high cost of either storing large quantities of supplies or of using air freight should be compared to the alternative of surface transport during the winter months. The investigation should also study the viability of return traffic from Eastern Labrador for products such as seal pelts and dried fish.

Recommendation 223 ------ Category 1 ---------- Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province take the necessary steps to update annually the employment skills inventory to Labrador coastal communities and to make it available to employers and Canada Manpower.

Response

Canada Manpower has engaged four Outreach workers to serve Coastal Labrador. Persons seeking employment complete registration forms which record their employment skills. This information is readily available to potential employers.

Recommendation 224 ------ Category 2 ---------- Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province ensure that job preference for Labrador people be written into the terms of all contracts and agreements with industry concerning new development projects in Labrador.

Response

All contracts for development projects contain a clause stating that residents of the Province should have job preference provided they have the necessary skills. However, Government does not specify that the residents of the area, where development is taking place, should be given preferential treatment as to do so would discriminate against the residents of the remainder of the Province.

LOCAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Recommendation 225 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that under the new Agreement between the Province and the Department of Regional Economic Expansion highest priority be given to the development of Coastal Labrador.

Response

The Coastal Labrador Community Development Subsidiary Agreement was essentially oriented toward the development of infrastructure. This may have been properly so, given the absence of earlier government expenditures in this regard in the past, especially in Southern and Eastern Labrador. The Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development is currently preparing a Labrador Development Proposal with an emphasis on economic development that will build upon the work of previous Agreements.

Recommendation 226 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province hire specialists in market research and promotion, specialty food production, and gear and equipment to assist the development of local resource-based projects in Coastal Labrador.

Response

The above services are available within the Provincial Government and supplied through the Departments of Fisheries, Forest Resources and Lands, Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development and Development and Tourism.

Recommendation 227 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Department of Rural Development create, for Coastal Labrador, the classification of Projects Development Officer, and locate these local resource use specialists in the following areas:

L'anse Au Clair - Red Bay
Cape St. Charles - Hawke's Bay
Hawke's Bay - Table Bay
Table Bay - West Bay

Response

Three Regional Development Associations have been formed along the coast from L'Anse Au Clair to West Bay and are addressing the needs of the regions in question.

Recommendation 228 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that Labrador Services Division and the Department of Rural Development develop the same qualifications, terms of reference and salary structures for their projects development officers.

Response

This recommendation is made redundant by the reorganization of the present Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development.

Recommendation 229 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Labrador Services Division establish a Local Projects Development Loan Fund of $500,000 to be made available to northern communities through projects development officers.

Response

The Labrador Development Division of R.A.N.D. has comprehensive and informed planning in place and under consideration for development in coastal Labrador

Recommendation 230 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that a pilot project be established in the Nain area in 1974, for the netting of seals with gear modelled after that used at Port Burwell.

Response

No further action required.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Recommendation 231 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends, that an identifying label for Labrador crafts be registered, with provision for inclusion of community of origin as well, for use on Labrador crafts, subject to adequate quality control.

Response

The Labrador Crafts Producers Association has devised and is using an identifying label which indicates that the product is made in Labrador.

Recommendation 232 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that an overall program of development in raw material supply production and marketing of Labrador crafts be undertaken by the Newfoundland and Labrador Craft Development Association under financing from the Province.

Response

The development of crafts in Labrador is presently being overseen by the Labrador Craft Producers Association with Craft Councils in most communities. This effort has been assisted by the placement of a full time craft development specialist on the Happy Valley/Goose Bay staff of the Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development.

COST OF LIVING

Recommendation 233 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that all Government programs, which provide per capita grants to Labrador or which provide service grants to Labrador people, be based on actual cost of living differentials in Labrador.

Response

Some provision is presently being made in the form of Labrador allowance for social assistance recipients. There is, however, very little uniformity or relationship to actual conditions of need and nordicity in the variety of allowances and special grants presently being administered. The level of nordicity should be reviewed on a regular basis so that regional differences such as exists between the Labrador Straits and Northern Labrador, and situational changes such as the opening of a Trans Labrador Highway may be taken in consideration.

SUBSIDIZATION

Recommendation 234 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends the introduction of this method of calculating nordicity allowances as component one of a hard-lying allowance for Provincial Government employees in Labrador.

Response

Same response as for #233.

Recommendation 235 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the second component of a hard-lying allowance for Government employees in Labrador be a cost of living allowance, calculated as a percentage addition to salary (or in the case of wage workers, as a percentage addition to wages for the regulation work week).

Response

Same response as for #233.

Recommendation 236 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the proposed system of hardlying allowances be reviewed every two years in order that changes in the relevant characteristics and data are reflected in adjustments within the cost of living and nordicity components of the allowance.

Response

Same response as for #233.

STATUS OF WOMEN

Recommendation 237 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province in its role as employer, ensure that its agencies comply with the law with respect to employment practices.

Response

The Department of Labour is continually enforcing regulations and laws which govern employment practices in the Province in both the private and public sectors. The Canadian Charter of Rights specifies other rights and the Province has renewed its legislation to bring it into line with the Charter.

Recommendation 238 Category 1 Complete

The Commission supports the recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada that the Canada Pension Plan be amended so that the spouse who remains at home can participate in the Plan.

Response

This concern is being directed by the Government of Canada.

Recommendation 239 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that part of the orientation given to new teachers and educators arriving in Labrador be practical information about employment opportunities for females in Labrador, with emphasis on the plight of traditionally educated women in the Labrador economy.

Response

All teachers have been exposed to recent trends and improvements in the Status of Women. In addition most teachers have studied basic sociology and are able to appreciate the social problems of the area in which they work. However, before any significant improvement becomes evident, there must be a change in attitude at all levels of society. Such attitudinal change cannot be achieved by direction alone but must be fostered and encouraged to develop from within each individual. The process of change is a slow one particularly in isolated areas with long standing traditions.

Recommendation 240______Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that all guidance counselling literature be carefully screened by teachers and counsellors before being utilized, and that efforts be undertaken by the Provincial Department of Education to locate and distribute literature which is more enlightened in its presentation of career opportunities for women.

Response

All guidance counselling materials distributed by the Department of Education are screened and selected using a variety of criteria.

Recommendation 241______Category 2__________Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province make an effort to acquaint provincial adult educators in the Province of the particularly deprived situation of the Labrador coastal woman and promote imaginative efforts to bring practical adult education into coastal communities.

Response

Under the Coastal Labrador Agreement, funds were made available and regulations were relaxed so that isolated communities could receive improved adult education services.

Presently, the Department of Education is considering the use of special communications technology to access isolated communities. Under the Distance Education Project such techniques as teleconferencing may be utilized to bring adult education to the coast.

Recommendation 242______Category 2__________Incomplete

The Commission recommends family and marriage counselling centers.

Response

The Department of Social Services is attempting to provide family and marriage counselling services through its existing delivery system without creating a costly new structure.

Recommendation 243______Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the educational institutions and

Government be receptive to requests for funding or assistance in developing family life programs which can be used in Labrador, especially in its more isolated areas.

Response

The Department of Education has developed a family life educational program for use in Newfoundland schools. The Roman Catholic Denominational Educational Committee also developed a family life educational program which is used in many of its schools. The use of these programs is left to the direction of local school boards and their advisors. Most school boards have introduced a family life program or are in the process of introducing one.

Recommendation 244 ______Category 1___________Complete

The Commission recommends that birth control and family planning information be made readily available to all.

Response

Family planning materials and advice is available on request from the doctors and nurses providing health services in the area.

Recommendation 245 ______Category 1___________Complete

The Commission recommends that family planning information including legal aspects of abortions, be made available in written for distribution in designated places by nurses, teachers, welfare officers and other social workers.

Response

Family planning information is being made available in written form by the Department of Health, Public Health nurses and also in some schools. At this point, it appears that most material is available upon request only and is not placed in public rooms. The Department of Social Services does not address this question except that individual field workers may pass on material sought by the worker from other agencies.

Recommendation 246 ______Category 2___________Incomplete

The Commission supports the establishment of day-care centers in all Labrador communities with sufficient need, and recommends that the Province assist groups or individuals, showing initiative in that direction, with advice, and funding where required.

Response

Some consideration should be given to the level of actual need in this regard and to the activities which are presently occurring in Labrador. In Coastal Labrador it would appear that there are two different needs. There are communities where a large percentage of the adult population is engaging in fish harvesting and processing activities during the summer months. In this regard, there have been day care centers operated in past years under the Young Canada Works Program. This type of activity must be initiated by the local community; relate to a locally perceived need and involve the community's youth element.

POPULATION

Recommendation 247 ______ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends that for Southern Labrador, when a census is being taken, that it be carried out twice within a one-year period, once in winter, perhaps February, and a second time in summer, July or August.

Response

Special procedures were implemented for Coastal Labrador in the taking of the 1976 and 1981 Census. The enumerators visited the area in March and April while the people were still in their winter residences. Two additional questions were asked in order to determine the place of residence as of June first.

The Census of Canada has been traditionally conducted using the 'de jure' system whereby persons enumerated away from home are counted at their regular place of residence. Statistics Canada has agreed to provide counts of persons who were enumerated as temporary residents and later assigned elsewhere.

The procedure started in the 1976 census and the ability to tabulate for summer and winter residence would appear to substantially meet the objectives of recommendations 247 and 248.

Recommendation 248 ______ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends that Statistics Canada amend its census gathering procedures and forms to reflect the true population of Labrador.

Response

See response to #247.

Recommendation 249

(This number was omitted in the Report of the Royal Commission.)

FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL AGREEMENTS

Recommendation 250 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that in the interim, and until such time as the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs, and the Crown Corporation for Labrador Services are established as proposed by this Commission, the Province make strong representation to the Federal Government to expand and upgrade its representation.

Response

This recommendation has been accomplished the establishment of the Co-ordinating Committee which oversees the administration of the Native People's of Labrador Agreement. The Co-ordinating committee is composed of two federal representatives, two provincial representatives, two residents appointed by the Labrador Inuit Association and two representatives appointed by the Naskaupi-Montagnais Innu Association.

Recommendation 251 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that eligibility to specified communities under the Agreement be dropped immediately so that the Government can meet their original intent of providing for the Indians and Eskimos of Labrador.

Response

It would appear that there has been much thought given to this matter at all levels with no clear consensus arising. The present Native People's Agreement does seem to provide social benefits on a geographical rather than ethnic basis. It may be that a more logical route would be to have a Coastal Labrador Development Agreement, covering the entire coast and unilateral or bilateral Native People's Agreement which would give more direct assistance to identified aboriginal people in Labrador.

Recommendation 252 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province advise the Federal Government that it will not now be party to, or accept present renegotiation of the Agreement as put forward to Treasury Board by the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs.

Response

This recommendation is rendered redundant by the Native People's of Labrador Agreement signed by the Federal and Provincial Government in June 1981 and authorizing expenditures of more than 38 million dollars in a five-year period.

Recommendation 253 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province prepare immediately to renegotiate the Agreement. The renegotiated Agreement must provide for the Indians and Eskimos of Labrador what is rightfully theirs, not on the basis of an increase from a maximum of $1 million dollars to a maximum of $1 1/2 million dollars, but on the basis of an increase at least between $4 1/2 million dollars and $6 million dollars annually, which is the minimum sum to which the people of northern Labrador are entitled, with such Agreement to be reviewed every two years.

Response

See the response to #252.

Recommendation 254 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province provide funds in its 1974-75 main estimates to cover its additional fiscal obligations under the readjusted Agreement.

Response

See the response to #252.

Recommendation 255 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Department of Rural Development and the Planning and Priorities Secretariat of the Executive Council, begin immediately to develop, in conjunction with the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, a sub-agreement based on the concept of area developments along the Labrador coast, encompassing desirable features of the Western Northlands program and the proposed Regional Communities Development initiatives programs of DREE.

Response

In May, 1981, the Government of Canada and Newfoundland signed the Community Development Subsidiary Agreement for Coastal Labrador. This Agreement provides for the expenditure of $38,996,000 over a five-year period. These funds are expended in highway construction, installation of water and sewer systems, community manager training, medical health clinic construction, a variety of pilot projects, studies and surveys, information and administration.

Recommendation 256 ______ Category 1 __________ Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province give immediate consideration to wishes to northern residents, as expressed to the Commission, to resettle in the Okak Bay-Cape Mugford area.

Response

Residents of Labrador have not made any request to Government concerning this matter and no action has been taken.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Recommendation 257 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province amend the Local Government Act to limit the length of time that a local improvement district can operate, be requiring that after a maximum of five years under this form of government residents be offered, through a referendum, the choice of full municipality status.

Response

The Local Improvement District form of Municipal Government disappeared with the adoption of the Municipalities Act of 1980. This Act effectively eliminated the appointment of councillors to municipal governments and offered these municipalities the option of electing the councils.

Recommendation 258 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Department of Municipal Affairs ensure that residents have access to the information on which to base their decisions.

Response

A Regional Office of the Department of Municipal Affairs has been established at Happy Valley/Goose Bay. This office is presently staffed by a Regional Administrator, a Municipal Inspector, a Regional Engineer, a Regional Municipal Assessor and a Clerk Typist. All Labrador communities have access to this office.

In addition to this office a Community Manager Training Program is being conducted by the Public Service Commission for the Managers of the incorporated communities of Coastal Labrador. This training program is funded by the Community Development Subsidiary Agreement.

Recommendation 259 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that community interpreter service be established in each of the Northern Labrador communities requiring such services.

Response

The Northern Institute of Memorial University has submitted a proposal to the C.L.C.D.S. Agreement for the acquiring of simultaneous translation equipment to be used in Northern Labrador. Interpretation services are available through several agencies.

Recommendation 260 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province engage the Faculty of Engineering at Memorial University to design community service facilities for remote settlements in Labrador.

Response

The Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing has its own Engineering Division to advise and assist incorporated communities regarding the design of community service facilities. Unincorporated communities may wish to use the services of the Engineering Faculty at Memorial University.

Recommendation 261 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province develop immediately a remote settlements policy which will apply to all Labrador settlements not connected by road, to provide funds, training, equipment and facilities to offer basic community services.

Response

The C.L.C.D.S. Agreement has responded to some of the Coastal Labrador communities' needs, as did the Native Peoples Agreement. However, it is apparent that these agreements fall short of responding to all the infrastructural needs of the communities.

Recommendation 262 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the facilities provided through the proposed remote communities policy include basic, appropriate fire fighting equipment.

Response

The present agreements provide appropriate community infrastructure including fire fighting equipment to most communities and further action is being taken to equip the other communities.

Recommendation 263 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the office of the Provincial Fire Marshall be unstructured to develop and implement a program of training in fire protection and fire-fighting in remote settlements.

Response

Attempts to fully implement this recommendation have not been successful due to a lack of co-ordination between the Fire Commissioner's office and community representatives in Labrador. This lack of co-ordination can be attributed to an apparent lack of interest on the part of communities. Several attempts over the past years have failed due to the fact that community representatives were not available at the time training was to be given. Still there are plans to again attempt the Mobile Training Program in Labrador in the spring of 1985.

FEDERAL SERVICES

Recommendation 264 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that Canada Manpower establish a radio network immediately connecting its coastal representatives with Happy Valley/Goose Bay, where necessary.

Response

This recommendation has been accomplished by improvements in the communications facilities presently available in Coastal Labrador.

Recommendation 265 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Federal Government announce its Local Initiatives Program sufficiently far in advance so that applications can be processed and approved by August of each year and that starting dates be more flexible.

Response

The L.I.P. Program was replaced in the late seventies by Canada Works. There have been some attempts to act on this recommendation by recognizing the various problems in delivering projects in the Labrador environment. In particular the Department of Fisheries and Oceans has succeeded in the past year in announcing projects in advance. However, in the past year budget restrictions have prevented this course of action.

Recommendation 266 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province, in conjunction with the Federal Government, assess community needs in central and coastal Labrador and formulate a five-year plan for use under the Local Initiative Program.

Response

While the Community Employment Strategy Program was in effect in the Labrador Straits, an interesting experiment was tried there, in setting priorities for the Canada Works Program. First, criteria was developed to establish guidelines for setting priorities. For example, top priority went to projects which would create long-term employment even after the short--term project was finished. High priority went to the projects related to local resource development areas especially the fishery, harvesting or processing, tourism, agriculture, etc.

Regional meetings composed of all project proposal sponsors were called, and the sponsors themselves voted on the priority level to be attached to all the projects. The exercise had the dual effects of pre-selecting the best project prior to the "Minister's District Manager" and over a three year period of training local community groups in preparing more valid projects.

Recommendation 267______Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government to establish a regional Unemployment Insurance Office at Happy Valley/Goose Bay.

Response

This recommendation has been implemented by the establishment of a regional Canada Employment and Immigration Centre at Happy Valley/Goose Bay.

Recommendation 268______Category 2__________Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government with a view to stationing an Air Search and Rescue Unit at Goose Bay on a year-round basis.

Response

A Base Rescue Flight unit is under active consideration by the Department of National Defence. However, there has been no verification that development will occur.

Recommendation 269______Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government with a view to establishing a more substantial Canadian Armed Forces presence at Goose Bay as a base for northern field exercises.

Response

The military use of Goose Bay has increased during the past decade not only by the Canadian Forces, but also other forces of NATO countries. This use especially in the area of the low level flight training and military exercises, is expected to be increased. In addition, considerably more expansion is planned.

Recommendation 270______Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the

Federal Government with a view to ensuring participation by the Department of National Defence in the construction and maintenance of airstrips in Labrador.

Response

The Labrador Airstrip Program, funded by the Government of Canada, is accomplishing the goal of having a 2,500 foot gravel airstrip with suitable support facilities and access roads at each permanent Coastal Labrador community with a population of more than 100 residents by 1987, expecting the communities of the Labrador Straits which are served by the paved airport at Blanc Sablon, Quebec, a gravel airstrip at Red Bay and the Labrador Straits Highway and Ferry.

Recommendation 271 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government in order to have the Canada Post Office facilities provided in line with community needs in Coastal Labrador, and staff paid according to actual responsibility and work load.

Response

This does not appear to be a high priority concern on the coast of Labrador at this time. More concern is expressed on occasion regarding the delivery of mail to some smaller communities when weather and/or landing conditions causes lengthy delays. Canada Post has sometimes used helicopters to relieve the problems.

Recommendation 272 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province negotiate with the Federal Government with a view to establishing an Environmental Control Office at Happy Valley/Goose Bay.

Response

The Federal Department of Environment had established a "seasonal" office in Labrador from the late seventies to 1984. However, due to the lack of activity in this area the office was discontinued and all environmental matters pertaining to Labrador are handled through the St. John's office and a Labrador liaison officer.

PROVINCIAL SERVICES TO LABRADOR

Recommendation 273 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that Happy Valley/Goose Bay continue to be the administrative centre for Labrador.

Response

This recommendation has been acted upon by the establishment of the Elizabeth Goudie Provincial Building at Happy Valley/-Goose Bay and the presence of officers to the following Departments and Provincial agencies in the community. Department of Culture, Recreation and Youth; Regional Biologist, Wildlife Enforcement; and Youth Specialist, Department of Education; Adult and Continuing Education, District Vocational School, Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat; Department of Fisheries, Department of Forest Resources and Lands, Forest Services, Crown Lands, Department of Labour and Manpower, Provincial and District Courts; Department of Mines and Energy; Department of Municipal Affairs; Newfoundland Liquor Commission; Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation; Department of Public Works and Services; Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development; Department of Social Services; Department of Transportation.

Recommendation 274 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province establish a Department of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Response

An Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat was established in Executive Council in December 1974. While Intergovernmental business is important, it is felt that a separate Department of Intergovernmental Affairs would not be justified.

Recommendation 275 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province provide additional expense allowances to permit Labrador members of the House of Assembly to travel regularly throughout their districts.

Response

The expense allowance available to the Members of the House of Assembly have been restructured to deal more equitably with Members whose districts are remote from St. John's.

Recommendation 276 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province through Labrador Services Division immediately recruit and employ project development officers to work in all communities under its jurisdiction.

Response

There are four Regional Development Associations covering the area from Labrador Straits to Upper Lake Melville, each employing a full-time co-ordinator and assisted by one Regional Development Specialist for the area, placed by the Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development. The Department also has on staff a Regional Development Specialist, a Native Training Program Director, a Regional Agricultural Representative and a Business Management Specialist.

Recommendation 277 Category 2 Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province establish a Crown Corporation to manage all the affairs now under the jurisdiction of Labrador Services Division and those which could become its responsibility in future.

Response

The Northern Development Division of the Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development manages most of the affairs previously handled by the Labrador Services Division. These services include: fur trading, retail stores for trappers and hunters, crafts development etc. The Northern Development Division holds a supervisory as well as advisory position in terms of economic and social development in Labrador. A major focus of this development entails Native Affairs in Labrador.

Recommendation 278 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through its Department of Rural Development, establish a regional office in Happy Valley/Goose Bay with supervisory staff.

Response

This recommendation has been accomplished by the establishment of the regional office of the Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development at Happy Valley/Goose Bay. The Assistant Deputy Minister, responsible for Northern Development is located at the Labrador office.

Recommendation 279______Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through its Department of Manpower and Industrial Relations, establish an office in Labrador West, adequately staffed with powers to enforce and monitor employment agreements between the Province and industry, and to assist in the recruitment of Provincial workers.

Response

There is a regional office of the Department of Labour and of Mines and Energy at Labrador West. The staff in 1984 includes a Stenographer with responsibility for Manpower Training, an Electrical Inspector, a Mines Inspector Officer and Mines Inspection Technician, and Mines and Energy Statistician.

Recommendation 280______Category 3_________Fiscal Restraints

The Commission recommends that the Province, through its Department of Manpower and Industrial Relations, establish an adequately staffed Labour Standards office in Happy Valley/Goose Bay.

Response

Budgetary restraints have prevented the implementation of this recommendation.

Recommendation 281______Category 2__________Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Human Rights Branch of the Department of Manpower and Industrial Relations, become active in the field of human rights in Labrador.

Response

The Human Rights Division was transferred to the Department of Justice on April 1, 1977. The Division is responsible for Human Rights matters in all parts of the Province, including Labrador.

Recommendation 282______Category 1_________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province through the Department of Mines and Energy, establish an office in Labrador West, with emphasis on mines inspection.

Response

Please refer to Response to #279.

Recommendation 283______Category 1__________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province erect a suitable public building in Happy Valley/Goose Bay, designed for future needs.

Response

The former Paddon Memorial Hospital has been renovated for use as a Provincial Office Building and is renamed the Elizabeth Goudie Building.

Recommendation 284______Category 2__________Incomplete

The Commission recommends that the Province establish a Regional Tax Audit and Inspection Office with adequate staff at Happy Valley/Goose Bay, and maintain the sub-regional office at Wabush.

Response

The number of taxpayers in the Happy Valley/Goose Bay area of Labrador does not, at this time, justify the establishment of a regional tax audit and inspection office at this location.

Recommendation 285______Category 1_________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province establish a full-time Fisheries Department Office with adequate staff at Happy Valley/-Goose Bay.

Response

A full-time Fisheries Department has been established in the Happy Valley/Goose Bay area. The regional office has a staff of four people, three of which are full-time positions. There is a Regional Supervisor, a Secretary and one field representative stationed in Mary's Harbour. There is also a frozen position (field representative) in the Cartwright/ Makkovik area and in the summer a person is hired to fulfill a "Glut Control" position as this is the height of the fishing season.

Recommendation 286______Category 1_________Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Workmen's Compensation Board, take into account the higher cost of living in Labrador and adjust rates accordingly.

Response

In this Province, compensation payments are based on loss of earnings and are related to the degree of disability suffered as a result of an industrial accident. This method is used by workmen's compensation boards throughout Canada. Rates are reviewed annually and take into account wage rates paid in all areas of the Province including those in Labrador.

Recommendation 287 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Newfoundland liquor Commission, establish an office in Happy Valley/ Goose Bay with adequate inspection staff for Labrador.

Response

The Newfoundland Liquor Licensing Board is the Government agency responsible for the licensing and inspection of liquor establishments. Following the Report of the Royal Commission, the N.L.L.B. considered the establishment of an office for the Happy Valley/ Goose Bay area. Investigation showed, however, that the number of establishments in the area was not sufficient to justify the expenditures required to implement the Commission's recommendation. The Board is satisfied that it can give satisfactory service from the St. John's office and regular inspections of Labrador liquor establishments are carried out by the staff from St. John's.

Recommendation 288 Category 1 Complete

The Commission recommends that the Province, through the Newfoundland Liquor Commission, conduct plebiscites in the communities of Nain, Davis Inlet, Postville and North West River to determine the wishes of the people respecting local sale of beer before any further licenses are issued.

Response

A Liquor Control Act was passed by the House of Assembly in 1973 and Regulations were issued the following year. The Act and Regulations ensure that before any license is issued the applicant must comply with the criteria established fir the protection of the community and the minimum standards governing retail outlets. The legislation does in fact provide for the Liquor Licensing Board to consider representation made to it by interested groups or individuals. This, coupled with the investigatory powers of the Board, provide the necessary safeguards and enables the free expression of the wishes of the community either by individuals or groups. This, in effect, eliminates the need for plebiscites.

CONCLUSION

The following table is a breakdown of the status of the 287 recommendations of the 1974 Royal Commission on Labrador.

Breakdown of the Status of
287 Recommendations of 1974

Category Number	Category Label	Number	Percentage
1	Complete	188	65.5%
2	Incomplete	76	26.5
3	Fiscal Restraints	5	1.7
4	Policy Restraints	18	6.3
Total		287	100.0%

This demonstrates that only 23 (categories 3 and 4) have not been acted upon by government. This is not to imply that these 23 recommendations have been ignored but that realities of finance and other programs have prevented their implementation.

The beginnings of development in Labrador are demonstrated in that 188 recommendations have been accomplished while another 76 have been addressed but require some more work. The programs of social, economic and cultural development initiated by the 1974 Report are continuing and will help bring Labrador into the twenty-first century.